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WAGNER IN CHICAGO.

The two weeks' season of German opera, under the effective leadership of Mr. Walter Damrosch, just ended in Chicago, has been peculiarly satisfying to lovers of music, both on account of the even excellence of the whole series of performances, and because of the evidence it has supplied of a genuine public taste for the greatest masterpieces of the lyric stage. The performances have mainly been devoted to the works of Richard Wagner, the only non-Wagnerian productions having been the "Freischütz" of Weber, and the "Fidelio" of Beethoven — two operas so closely akin to "Tristan" and "Die Walküre" that the association was both fit and salutary. The audiences have been large and appreciative, displaying a subdued but stern enthusiasm as far as possible removed from the noisy ebullition of feeling usually evoked by works of the barrel-organ type. The best evidence that the performances have been taken as seriously as they deserve is to be found in the fact that large numbers of people have sought to prepare themselves for the works by some preliminary study of their structure. Not only have the expository morning lectures of Mr. Damrosch attracted crowds of listeners, but a number of local musicians as well have addressed large audiences of students eager to equip themselves

with the knowledge necessary for a comprehension of the interwoven harmonies of the "Nibelungen" tetralogy.

Of course the Philistine, after the manner of his kind, jeers at this sort of thing, as he would jeer at anyone who should attend a course of lectures on Shakespeare in anticipation of a season of Mr. Irving, or as he has recently been jeering, in his favorite role of newspaper critic of music, at the extremely helpful analytical programmes this year for the first time provided for the concerts of the Chicago Orchestra. In his view, works of dramatic and musical art are for the amusement of mankind, not for their instruction or ethical discipline, and, in the depths of his vulgar ignorance, he resents as a personal affront the suggestion that they may have for others any deeper meaning than they have for him. As a monumental illustration of the incapacity of such critics, we may instance the argument, which we have come across more than once in the public print, that "Die Walküre" is to be condemned upon moral grounds because it depicts the love of Siegmund and Sieglinde. One might say to such a critic, "I thank thee, Jew, for teaching me that word," for at least it consigns Wagner and Æschylus to a common infamy, and the most fervent apostle of the German composer would hardly venture, unprompted, to pedestal him beside the Greek tragic poet. The ineptitude which makes possible such an amazing verdict as we have above recorded does not, of course, deserve serious notice, but it does excite some curiosity to feel the bumps of the man who was capable of expressing such an opinion.

The history of Wagnerian music in Chicago covers a score of years. It is difficult now to think of the "Tannhäuser" overture and the "Lohengrin" nuptial chorus as novelties, but a quarter of a century ago it required confidence and even daring to include them in a popular concert programme. Mr. Thomas, fortunately, was equal to the occasion, and his Wagnerian propaganda was begun in Chicago with two or three numbers of this sort as long ago as before the Great Fire, of which we read in our ancient history. It was a little over twenty years ago that the first performance of a Wagner opera was heard in Chicago. The work was "Lohengrin," and Madame Albani sang the part of the heroine. Two or three years later came the "Dutchman," with Miss Kellogg in the character of Senta. "Tannhäuser" came next, then "Rienzi." About a dozen years ago Chicago got "Die Walküre" as a first instalment of the Nibelungen tetralogy. At about this time the late Dr. Damrosch gave us the first performance of the "Parsifal" *Vorspiel*. Not long after, the entire series of the "Ring der Nibelungen" was given, and this work was soon followed by the "Meistersinger van Nürnberg." "Tristan and Isolde" had its first production in Chicago in the spring of the present year, and completed the list of the Wagnerian music-dramas, with the single exception of "Parsifal," which, we need hardly say, has not yet been given (as a stage performance) anywhere in America. And during all these years, Mr. Thomas has so persistently included Wagnerian selections in his orchestral programmes that many of them have become as familiar as were the "William Tell" and "Freischütz" overtures in the old pre-Wagnerian days.

The importance of the educational work done in this direction by our veteran conductor can hardly be over-estimated. He has done more than anyone else to make the music of the future the music of the present, to confound the rage of the heathen, and to confute the vain imaginings of old-fogyism. We understand that it has always been rather against the personal inclinations of Mr. Thomas that he has given so disproportionate an amount of attention to the works of a single modern composer, that he would much have preferred to play Beethoven and Mozart, but that he at first recognized the necessity of combating the strength of ignorant anti-Wagnerian prejudice, and afterwards found that so irresistible a popular demand for Wagner had been created in the music-loving public of this city that he could not do otherwise than satisfy it, seeing that the demand had been so largely of his own creating. A word should also be said of the work done during these years by the most influential and scholarly musical critic in Chicago. Mr. Upton's long and honorable connection with journalism in this city has been noteworthy in many ways, but in none more so than in the zeal and sympathy which it has brought to all the attempts made by Mr. Thomas and others to make of the music of Richard Wagner an integral and intimate part of the musical consciousness of Chicago audiences.

Those of us who have been watching for years — sometimes hopefully, sometimes despondently, and always eagerly—for signs of the development of this great city upon its spiritual side have derived more satisfaction from the progress of musical culture than from any other

single source. While painting and sculpture and architecture have at times seemed to be making no headway at all, while educational and literary ideals have lagged far behind the march of material prosperity, while true civic feeling has seemed to be forgotten in the all-absorbing passion for money-getting, the growth of culture in music, the most ideal of the arts, has been gratifying in the extreme. At the present day, music is probably the largest factor in the spiritual life of this community, and few communities anywhere offer such opportunities for musical culture. The most important serious musical review published in America is produced in Chicago; one of the three or four best orchestras in the world may be heard here in weekly concerts; the two great operatic organizations that occupy the field this year give Chicago a large share of their attention; we are having more good chamber music than ever before; the great soloists of the concert-stage all find here a cordial welcome, while one of them, at least, makes this city her home; and when we look beyond these conspicuous features of our musical life, into the work of the societies, and the schools, and the private teachers with their individual following, we find an activity that is more than hopeful, a state of things that comes near to realizing the best that it is reasonable to expect of any American community, a fermentive influence at work that is leavening for good the whole heterogenous human mass.

IN GRATITUDE TO PROFESSOR BOYESEN.

The late Professor Boyesen, like most persons of interest, was a bundle of contradictions; and to estimate his influence, or even trace his manner of thought, one must begin and end with the cherished notion that inconsistency, not consistency, is the proverbial jewel, if indeed the latter is not a bugbear of weak minds. An illustration of his delightfully human obliquity, and at the same time perhaps of his childlike *naïveté*, is afforded by the circumstances of the following letter, confided to me by a young man who was at the crossways of journalism and teaching when recently he sought the genial professor's advice. It is a dilemma so frequently confronting college-bred men of literary tastes, and Professor Boyesen's words are so pertinent and characteristic, that I venture, with "Nicodemus's" permission, to reproduce them.

NEW YORK, May 29, 1894.

MY DEAR MR. ——:

. . . Will you pardon me if I say that I think you are very sanguine, and take rather unwarrantable risks, in giving up a safe and sure position as a teacher for the very uncertain chance of making a success in journalism, at a time when there are a hundred applicants (so often very able ones) for every position. I have seen so much misery this winter among young educated men, who had done the very thing that you propose to do, that I cannot refrain from warning you.

In 1880 I gave up my Cornell professorship for the very same reason that you adduce; and I was very glad to resume the professorial harness at Columbia in 1881, and I have never since contemplated the possibility of getting rid of it.

Will you permit me to call your attention to a short story of mine called "Liberty's Victim" (in the volume, "Vagabond Tales"), which preaches a pointed practical moral on this subject. I remain, with kind regards and good wishes, very sincerely yours, H. H. BOYESEN.

With his usual frankness and cordiality, he here referred "Nicodemus" to a story (the volume underlined, N. laughingly insists upon my mentioning, in an enclosed price-list of his "works") of dismally blighted literary hopes, which he wrote presumably after he had experimented with hack-work as a sole means of support, and had known its trials. Not so, however. "Vagabond Tales," which were published in 1889, were written, Mr. Barry informs us, while Boyesen was yet professor at Cornell; so that "Liberty's Victim," if indeed we do not entirely mistake its personal ring, proceeded from anxious anticipation, not the actual experiment, of burning his ships behind him. *Voilà.* He expected a novice to profit from advice he had once given himself and refused to follow. "Though Nestor swear the jest be laughable," as he must have done on the occasion in question, it does not detract from the sanity and wholesomeness of his judgment, in helping young men to find themselves. It only proves that he knew the futility of all advice; *opus est, enim, ad notitiam sui, experimento.* Nor could he have overlooked the fine humor of the situation.

As advice goes, however, whole oceans of which vaporize into nothing, Professor Boyesen's to young men was uncommonly potential, because it was generally the outgrowth of experience rather than observation. In his childhood he was prompted by an inordinate curiosity to put his finger into a lawn-mower, to see how it worked. When he, in turn, transmitted to his own boys the parental injunction, "Don't get caught in the machinery," blue eyes and flaxen curls must have reluctantly acquiesced. He left many nuts, too, for boys of the quill to crack. The literary novice may well ponder the facts of Professor Boyesen's *Sturm und Drang* period.

Frankness was the atmosphere of his life. Yet he was rarely blunt or curt, nor did he appear to carry his heart on his sleeve. That he was self-sufficient, and transmuted his wide observations into a microcosm of his own, denotes virility, not egotism. He lived his own life, in the Goethean, not the Emersonian, sense, assimilating vitalizing materials from each new environment. He was self-centred, as every artist must be,—yet not insulated. He followed the shrewd counsel dropped by the Merry-Andrew in the prelude of Faust:

> "Reach deep and widely into human life,
> Every one lives it, few know it,"

and found, to judge from his tireless enthusiasm,

> "Wherever you put in your trowel, there it is interesting."

He projected his life on a large scale; and why not, when his zest for living was so keen? In 1889, his forty-first year, he published an essay on the "Meridian of Life," striking a mock-elegiac strain. "There is a touch of exquisitely cruel regret," he said, "in the thought that I am henceforth no more to be numbered among that happy throng to whom folly is becoming and permissible." Then he quoted Browning:

"Grow old along with me!
The best is yet to be,
The last of life for which the first was made."

Cheerily hoping the full human allotment of years, at the half-way point he could talk exuberantly of the compensations of middle-life.

Few men could so engage the popular attention with the exposition of their own daily emotions. This very note of frankness, his willingness to be subjectively committal, was a barrier to preëminent success in story-telling. As he confessed, he wrote his stories with his "heart-blood." They read so. One feels that, with the possible exception of "Gunnar," his one romance, they are too individualistic, we had almost said too personal, too roughly distilled in the alembic of his imagination. Like most men of affairs, he could not get far enough away from his subject to see it impassively, and, in the truest sense, mirror nature. The essay and discussion, rather, were his forte. When editor of "Framerd" in Chicago, in those early courageous days, he devoted himself "chiefly to denouncing denominational schools among the Norwegians," in which "crusade" he took "a great deal of pleasure." He was a born controversialist, who loved to startle his opponents by occasionally overstating his position, a species of criticism which, however entertaining, never fails to rouse sympathy for the cause against which one is pleading. Call Professor Boyesen "sensational," "cynical," if you will: by his pleasing sophistries he often helped others, on the rebound, to find truth; and he was never, never stupid. His "Commentary on Ibsen," which, one might imagine from its name, would be loaded down with exegetical minutiæ, is as readable as the happy little bundle of essays entitled "Social Silhouettes." True, one may take exception to some portion of everything he wrote. He dealt inadequately, perhaps, with the ethics of Robert Browning, and he characterized Messrs. Crawford and Weyman as "mere purveyors of amusement." But this is simply saying that he had the defects of his qualities, among which were an intense interest in every social and literary problem; his contemporaneity; and a Macaulayan love of warm color and startling paradox. That he could daily rise so heroically above the "drudgery of the desk's dead wood" (I sometimes think Lamb by these words characterized the recitation-room as well as he did the counting-house), and, between lectures at Columbia, turn out, in wondrous succession and with apparent ease, essays, translations, poems, *causerie*, and even stories, crudely realistic as they may be, evinces a rare versatility and fecundity.

Amidst all this activity, wearing ever so lightly the "professorial harness," he was glad to see his friends, and even the chance visitor who had a congenial errand. He was of kind service to many, especially of a younger generation, in admitting them to his refreshing companionship,— just as he had himself been inspired by personal contact with Turgenieff, Ibsen, and Björnsen. He would smilingly suspend his work, and show you his rare editions of "Faust," or of old Norse Sagas, according to your taste, with a running commentary of gossip and reminiscence, which, for fluency and good cheer, equalled any of his writings. On the wall facing his desk at Columbia were pinned as many as a hundred pictures of literary folk, from magazines and periodicals. To his American and European contemporaries he would point with an amused air, saying he could work better, "compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses."

GEORGE MERRIAM HYDE.

COMMUNICATION.

THE OBSTACLES TO INDIVIDUALITY IN TEACHING.

(To the Editor of THE DIAL.)

As a reader who for many years has tried to be a teacher in the highest sense of the word, and one who has had experience in the schools of several states, I wish to express the gratitude that all teachers must feel for the recognition so ably accorded by THE DIAL of the influence of Individualism in teaching, and its plea for wider scope in that direction. I firmly believe, however, that the average superintendent and board of education are not only willing to allow, but wish to encourage, capable teachers to exert their individuality. The trouble is that there are so few teachers who are "capable" in this direction; and for this the conditions, not the teachers or the superintendents, are usually to blame.

Owing to many things, chiefly the foreign influx and the mania of foreigners for placing their daughters above manual work, and above all the despicable political spoils system, there has been a lamentable deficiency in the quality of teachers, at least below the high school. The scholarship requirements have been of such a nature that any person with an average intellect could learn the necessary facts for examination and certificate purposes. Given a certificate and a "political pull," and the rest has been easy.

Under existing conditions, how can persons of marked individuality be expected to choose the profession of teaching, or to remain in it? No teacher can retain self-respect who is continually hampered by the trials incident to frequent changes, or whose salary is inadequate to maintain herself and insure the means of increasing her general and special culture. In most of the states, the teacher below the high school rarely receives, outside the largest cities, a higher salary than $450 a year, and it is more often $360. If she is self-supporting, her living expenses will exhaust at least $270 for the school year, clothing will consume (including shoes, gloves, and hats) another $100; travelling expenses, books and periodicals (and if she is required to attend teachers' institutes this amount will be inadequate), $50. Although these are very low estimates, and no provision has been made for incidentals, $420 is needed to cover them. How shall the teacher plan who receives but the $360 as salary, and must live through the vacations? How can the teacher, however high her ideals, however fitted she may be for social pleasures and mental improvement, avail herself of the opportunities that may offer if any extra expense is entailed in the way of dress, books, or tickets? Is not the young woman who has a good home and good education, but finds a little extra money desirable for dress or the future trousseau, the real enemy of the ideal teacher? This young woman does not expect to make teaching a life-work, hence she lowers the standard of the profession. Her father, perhaps, holds political influence in the district, and says, "What is the use of sending away for a teacher? My daughter will take the school for less money than a stranger." This is especially true in rural schools. As objectionable as is the habit of text-book reliance, I believe most sensible people would prefer to have such teachers bound to it rather than to exercise their individuality on their children.

ANNA LEMIRA MOORE.

Madison, Wis., Nov. 23, 1895.

The New Books.

Sherman's Autobiography.*

The two ponderous volumes of John Sherman's autobiography are before us. The burden of the work is a very skilful and elaborate presentation of Mr. Sherman's leadership in dealing with the finances of the Government during his extended public service; but other questions of interest receive due attention, and the reader is thus abundantly supplied with the material for a just estimate of the man.

Mr. Sherman was one of eleven children, and was born at Lancaster, Ohio, on the 10th day of May, 1823. A particular account of his ancestors is given in his first chapter, but he says he cannot claim for them superior rank or wealth or ability, but that they were men of useful and honorable lives, of untarnished reputation, thorough republicans in the best sense of that word, and always for their country in every contest for the right. In dealing with his school days and early life, Mr. Sherman is singularly frank. He says he was regarded as a wild reckless boy and eager to fight, and that he frequently quarrelled and fought with one of his schoolmates. He had numerous controversies with his teachers, and was sometimes punished with the ferrule and the switch. He was often more or less intoxicated, and in one instance excessively so, and was twice expelled from school for inexcusable misconduct. In his early school days, however, first at Mt. Vernon and afterwards at Lancaster, he made considerable progress in his studies, especially in mathematics, and at the age of thirteen he began to develop his thrifty disposition. "If fortunes could be made by others," said he, "why could I not make one? I wished I was a man. It began to appear to me that I could not wait to go through college. What were Latin and Greek to me, when they would delay me in making a fortune?" Prompted by these feelings he succeeded, through the influence of his brother Charles, in getting the position of rodman under the chief engineer in charge of the improvement of the Muskingum river. He was then only fourteen, but proved equal to his duties, and after the survey was completed he was entrusted with the supervision of a portion of the work. During the vacation which was allowed him in the fall of 1838, he purchased a barge, and undertook the shipment of salt and other commodities to Cincinnati as a speculation, but the unexpected delay caused by the low water in the Ohio made the venture a losing one. In the election of this year the Democrats were successful, and a change in the board of public works deprived young Sherman of his position. In the following year he determined to study law, and in 1840 entered upon his studies in Mansfield; but as he could not be admitted to practice till he was twenty-one, he managed in the mean time to support himself by such odd jobs of miscellaneous business as fell in his way, without seriously neglecting his studies. He was admitted to the bar in 1844, soon after he became of age, and entered into a prosperous business as the equal partner of his brother Charles. In this year he cast his first vote, and made his first political speech for Henry Clay. He was a Whig by inheritance and association, and he tells us that at this time he had but two definite ideas about politics: a hearty belief in the doctrine of protection to American industries, and a strong prejudice against the Democratic party.

On the slavery question the attitude of Mr. Sherman as a great Republican leader naturally awakens a peculiar interest. No man had less sympathy with abolitionism. By nature he was unimpassioned and conservative. The moral bearings of slavery gave him no concern. In 1848, when men of eminence from all other parties joined in forming a new one to prevent the spread of slavery over our national territories, the movement had no significance for Mr. Sherman, who contentedly remained in the Whig party, and became a delegate to the national convention which voted down the Wilmot Proviso and nominated for the Presidency a large slave-owner who was perfectly acceptable to the South. In 1850, when Congress balked this great uprising of the people of the Northern States by a compromise which abandoned the Wilmot Proviso, and thus invited the repeal of the Missouri restriction which followed, Mr. Sherman gave his unhesitating approval to this betrayal of a great cause. In 1852, when the Whig and Democratic parties joined hands in solemnly pledging themselves to oppose the further *discussion* of the slavery question, in Congress or out of Congress, whenever, wherever, or however such discussion might be attempted, and under whatever shape or color the attempt might be made, Mr. Sherman heartily indorsed these pledges, was a dele-

*Recollections of Forty Years in the House, Senate, and Cabinet. An Autobiography. By John Sherman. In two volumes. (Sold by subscription only.) Chicago: The Werner Company.

gate to the national convention which nominated General Scott, and an elector of his party. He always declared himself opposed to the abolition of slavery in the District of Columbia, though always conceding the power of Congress to do it; and when the events of the war brought the question to the front in 1862 he voted for the measure because it would add to the value of the property of the District and increase its population. The right of the negroes to their liberty seems not to have entered his thoughts. It is true that in 1854, when he was first elected to Congress by the Whigs and Know-Nothings of his district, he opposed the repeal of the Missouri Compromise, and afterwards demanded its restoration; but so did thousands of conservatives like himself who were shocked by this attempt to remove an ancient landmark and renew the agitation that had been quieted by the final settlement of 1850. To oppose the repeal of the Missouri Compromise as the violation of a solemn compact, was one thing; but to oppose it as a cold-blooded conspiracy for the spread of slavery over the continent was another and totally different thing.

That Mr. Sherman's opposition to slavery was not inspired by conviction, but grounded on political expediency, was made evident by his conduct while a candidate for Speaker in the Thirty-sixth Congress. A North Carolinian named Helper had written a book entitled "The Impending Crisis of the South: How to Meet It." Helper was not the champion of the negroes, and thought they ought to be colonized; but he appealed to the poor whites of the South, of whom he was one, to organize against the crushing exactions of slavery. His arguments were unanswerable, and his facts in the main trustworthy; and nothing could have seemed more innocent than the recommendation of such a book by a man who was opposed to slavery even on economic grounds. But when Clarke of Missouri charged Republican members of Congress, including their candidate for Speaker, with recommending the book, and declared that the man who did it was not only unfit to be Speaker but unfit to live, the balloting for Speaker was suspended, and denials, apologies, and explanations abounded, as if slavery had been of divine appointment and the writing of such a book an unpardonable sin. Mr. Sherman did not think he had recommended the book, but as he found his name printed along with other signatures he supposed he must have signed the paper. He finally stated that he signed it by proxy, but that he knew nothing of the contents of the book; and he disclaimed any right on the part of the people of the Free States to meddle with the relation of master and slave in the South. This disclaimer was repeated and gratuitously reiterated during the protracted debate which followed; and he made the remarkable statement that at the beginning of that session of Congress he did not believe the question of slavery would come up, and that but for Brown's raid at Harper's Ferry there would have been no feeling on the subject. In his mental bewilderment he seems to have forgotten that the repeal of the Missouri Compromise, the bloody outrages in Kansas, and the brutal assault upon Charles Sumner, had created a commotion of which the affair at Harper's Ferry was a mere incident. His labors as a peace-maker were utterly thrown away. It was this spirit of conciliation in the presence of turbulence and threats which called forth the stinging rebuke of Northern members, by Thaddeus Stevens, for cowering before the studied bluster of the Southern leaders.

But in justice to Mr. Sherman it should be remembered that he rendered invaluable service in the struggle to make Kansas a Free State. He was Chairman of the Congressional Committee which was sent to the territory to investigate the Border Ruffian outrages, and which dragged to the light a great mass of startling facts which powerfully and savingly influenced public opinion in the Northern States. His labors on the stump in the campaign of 1860 were untiring and effective, as they were a little later in the enlistment of recruits for the war. When the great conflict came, and the power he had vainly sought to propitiate struck at the Nation's life, his timidity gave place to courage, and he gave his whole heart and strength to the imperilled cause of the Union. He believed in prosecuting the war with the whole might of the nation, and he took an active and leading part in all the legislation of Congress during and following the struggle, including whatever acts affected the institution of slavery and the fortunes of the colored race.

Mr. Sherman's strongest claim upon the gratitude of his country, however, is based upon his activity and leadership in managing the finances of the government during the war and thenceforward to the present time. His natural aptitude for financial studies was joined to tireless industry in the public service. He

was a zealous champion of the Legal-tender Act of 1862, and of our system of national banks. He took the lead in the work of funding the public debt, as he did also in the resumption of specie payments. His labors both as Senator and Secretary of the Treasury are set forth with elaboration and detail in these two great volumes, including citations from the Congressional debates, copious extracts from his own speeches, letters from distinguished public men commending his action, and such explanations as he deemed called for in placing himself advantageously before the country. He may well be proud of his record, for it shows his prodigious industry and patience and the large measure of success which followed. We do not mean to say, however, that he made no mistakes. He was wrong in espousing the Sherman Act, which proved so disastrous to the country. He had no faith in it, and in lending it his support on grounds of party expediency the statesman was lost in the politician. He was wrong again, as he now confesses, when he favored the payment of 5–20 bonds in greenbacks. He is wrong to-day in opposing the retirement of our legal-tender notes, and thus lending the continued sanction of the government to the mischievous folly and delusion of an irredeemable paper currency. And we believe the sober judgment of history will pronounce him wrong in favoring the passage of the Legal-tender Act of 1862. It was this legal attempt "to make something true which was false," and not Secretary McCulloch's policy of contraction, as Mr. Sherman asserts, that gave birth to the greenback craze which demoralized both the great parties, deluded the people, and finally found expression in the Supreme Court of the United States in its its opinion overruling the decision of Chief Justice Chase in the case of Hepburn *vs.* Griswold.

These volumes bear constant witness to Mr. Sherman's absolute loyalty to his party. If this is a virtue, no man has a better title to it. His career shows that he has been ambitious. In his long public life he has had many rivalries and conflicts, and his aspirations for the presidency have been repeatedly disappointed; but his devotion to his party has known no change. When it has gone astray, he has still followed it. When its chief leaders and founders felt compelled to leave it on account of the scandals of Grant's two administrations, he quietly and uncomplainingly followed its fortunes. While he was Secretary of the Treasury he removed Arthur and Cornell from the New York Custom House, on account of gross malfeasance in office; but when Cornell afterwards became a candidate for Governor of New York, Mr. Sherman supported him in a series of public speeches. When this action was criticised by his friends, his defence was that "we must carry New York next year, or see all the results of the war overthrown and the constitutional amendments absolutely nullified." Kindred considerations induced him to support the Sherman Act. He did not approve the measure, but thought it would be of temporary advantage in preventing the passage of a bill for the free and unlimited coinage of silver. Such a bill would have to be acted upon by President Harrison, and his approval or veto of the measure would tend to divide and weaken the Republican party. *That* was his sole and anxious concern, for the President held in his hand the power to save the country from the free-silver madness.

Mr. Sherman's loyalty to his party has a still more striking illustration in his action in Louisiana in the fall of 1876, respecting the famous Returning Board of that State. He was then in New Orleans as one of the "visiting statesmen" deputed by President Grant to supervise the action of this body in counting the vote of the State for President. The result of the national canvass was at stake, and Mr. Sherman knew that these were the same men who constituted the Board in 1874, and that after the election in that year they took the majority of votes from one side and gave it to the other, by unjust, arbitrary, and illegal action, as shown by a Republican Congressional Committee composed of Wheeler of New York, Hoar of Massachusetts, and Frye of Maine. He knew that Wells, the President of this Board, who had been Governor of the State under the reconstruction policy of President Johnson, had been summarily ejected from that office for violating an act of the Legislature respecting the repair of her levees, and seeking to prostitute the funds of the State to partisan purposes. He knew that this Returning Board had no power to reject the vote of any precinct unless the certificate from such precinct was accompanied by a sworn protest, signed by the supervisors, that intimidation had been practiced; and that in no single instance did the Commissioners of Election show a compliance with this requirement, without which Tilden had legally carried the State by seven thousand majority. But Mr. Sherman was working for his party. He believed, and so did the Repub-

licans throughout the country at that time, that the election of Tilden would be a national calamity, and that we should "see all the results of the war overthrown and the constitutional amendments absolutely nullified," as he had declared in speaking of the defeat of Cornell in New York. It was as impossible for Mr. Sherman to consider the issue of the Louisiana election judicially as to add to his stature by taking thought. Mr. Sumner used to say, "The slave of principle, I call no party master." Mr. Sherman might say with equal truth, "The slave of party, I call no principle master." That he attempts in this autobiography to defend his action in Louisiana simply proves that the party idolatry which blinded his vision in 1876 has never been intermitted.

Mr. Sherman refers to a meeting between General Thomas and General Sherman, at Williamsport, on the Potomac, early in June, 1861. In the light of the past it now has a special interest. The interview took place at Mr. Sherman's lodgings in a country tavern. His brother, he says,—

"Then met for the first time in many years his old class-mate, Colonel, afterwards Major General, George H. Thomas, who then commanded a regular regiment of the United States army in the force under the command of General Patterson. The conversation of these two officers, who were to be so intimately associated in great events in the future, was very interesting. They got a big map of the United States, spread it on the floor, and on their hands and knees discussed the probable salient strategic places of the war. They singled out Richmond, Vicksburg, Nashville, Knoxville, and Chattanooga. To me it has always appeared strange that they were able confidently and correctly to designate the lines of operation and strategic points of a war not yet commenced, and more strange still that they should be leading actors in great battles at the places designated by them at this country tavern."

Mr. Sherman's interest in the finances led to a particular intimacy between him and Secretary Chase, who figures largely in this autobiography. It is pleasant to notice that their relations were those of friendship and mutual respect.

Prior to the National Republican Convention of 1880, Mr. Sherman's relations with Garfield were most friendly. He now says:

"I knew Garfield well. From his early advent in 1861 in the Legislature of Ohio, when I was a candidate for the Senate, to the date of his death, I had every opportunity to study his character. He was a large, well-developed, handsome man, with a pleasing address and a natural gift for oratory. Many of his speeches were models of eloquence. These qualities naturally made him popular. But his will-power was not equal to his personal magnetism. He easily changed his mind, and honestly veered from one impulse to another. This, I think, will be admitted by his warmest friends. During the trying period between his election and inauguration his opinions wavered, but Blaine, having similar personal qualities but a stronger will, gained a powerful influence with him. When I proposed to him to be a delegate-at-large to the Chicago convention he no doubt meant in good faith to support my nomination. When his own nomination seemed probable, he acquiesced in, and perhaps contributed to it, but after his election he was chiefly guided by his brilliant Secretary of State."

Mr. Sherman evidently believes that Garfield secretly coöperated with his friends in securing his own nomination; and as to this there is probably little diversity of opinion among intelligent men. The Presidency was too tempting a plum to turn away from when pressed upon him by his enthusiastic admirers. He yielded; but he is not solely responsible. If Mr. Sherman's temperament had been more tropical, and his friends in Ohio and elsewhere had heartily and enthusiastically worked for his success, either he or Mr. Blaine would have been nominated, and no "dark horse" would have been thought of. Mr. Sherman, in telling the story of his political defeats and arraigning other public men for their hostile action, should remember that he too has been an exemplar in the business of practical politics. He has had his literary bureaus, and has freely used all the appliances by which public opinion could be influenced in his behalf and the votes of delegates secured, whether in the Northern or Southern States. Indeed, if he had been less intensely devoted to his own ambition, and less obsequious to the party which has so often failed him in times of trial, his chances of political success would probably have been improved.

We have little space left for minor topics. In telling the story of his life, Mr. Sherman has evidently cared more about the accuracy of his facts than their literary expression. In the matter of style, his third chapter, giving a brief history of Ohio, is by far the best in the two volumes. The public will be glad to learn that Secretary Stanton and General Sherman became reconciled, and that during Stanton's last illness General Sherman called to see him. In stating that the Republican party was named at its Philadelphia convention of the fourth of July, 1856, Mr. Sherman is mistaken. It was named at its first national convention, which met at Pittsburg on the twenty-second of February of that year, organized the party, and issued the call for its first nominating convention in the following July.

GEORGE W. JULIAN.

Studies of Bird Life.*

Any treatise in ornithology coming from the hand of Professor Elliot, the Curator of Zoölogy in the Field Columbian Museum, bears the stamp of authority. The author has proved his capacity to deal with this branch of natural history by various monographs in special groups of birds peculiar to both the eastern and the western hemispheres. In his latest work, devoted to "North American Shore Birds," he addresses a more popular audience than heretofore, desiring particularly to meet the needs of sportsmen, and of the interested but unscientific observer of birds found on our coasts and along the shores of our inland waters. He has therefore adapted his book in every feature to the requirements of these two classes of readers.

The species described number upwards of seventy, all comprised in the order *Limicolæ*. Among them are some of our choice game birds, woodcock, snipe, plover, etc. Each species is figured in a full-page engraving, which, with the accompanying life-history, ensures its easy recognition. There are furnished, besides, a key to the order, by which the name and place of any shore bird in hand may be determined, an outline map plainly defining the scientific terms applied to its external features, and a glossary. The biographies are short and compact, simple in style, and enriched with incidents drawn from the author's own experience. He has been from boyhood a student of shore birds, seeking them in their native haunts from the Atlantic to the Pacific, and from Alaska to the plains of Mexico. There is consequently a freshness in much of the information given which renders it valuable to the naturalist as well as the inexperienced bird-lover.

Among the whole number of species described, none are quite so curious in certain habits as the Phaleropes, of which there are three species, all partaking of the same striking peculiarities. In his account of the Northern Phalerope, Professor Elliot thus tells its strange story:

"Early in May it arrives at the breeding grounds, and the females commence to make love to the apparently indifferent males, using all the wiles and blandishments generally employed by one of the sterner sex (when bent on a like purpose) to gain the favor and seduce the affection of the object of its adoration. And the male is as coy and retiring as the most bashful maiden, turning away from the proffered attentions, first to this side, then to that, even flying to the opposite side of the pool, or to another near by; but all in vain, for he is followed by the fair one who has chosen him from his fellows, and there is no escape. He swims rapidly along, but she is ever near, and with arched neck circles about him, rising on wing at times and poising above him, and producing a sharp series of sounds by quick strokes of the pinions. At last, like any other poor bachelor so beset, he yields, and the nest, a slight structure of dry stalks, is placed in the centre of a thick tuft of grass. The eggs are four in number. . . . On these the poor male, a victim to woman's rights, is obliged to sit the greater part of the time, the female amusing herself on the pool near by."

As a rule, male birds are handsomer than their mates; and if there be a difference in their size, it is to his advantage. But the reverse of this obtains among the Phaleropes. Only last spring the writer of this saw two Lady Wilson Phaleropes disputing over the possession of one of the opposite sex. They were in a tiny pool left by the rains in a grain-field, where they had dropped to rest and refresh themselves on their way up from the south. The ladies were elegantly attired and most graceful in every motion, while the little, shy, demure male, in a coat of plain colors, kept to himself and fed quietly at one side of the pool, apparently unmindful of the eager, not to say violent, behavior of the pair contending for his companionship. It was a singular study in bird-life, suggesting amusing parallels in human history. How or when this dominion of the female sex began among the Phaleropes is a question lost in an obscure antiquity.

The manual on "British Birds," by Mr. W. H. Hudson, might be called a companion piece to Chapman's "Handbook of the Birds of the Eastern United States," which won such general applause on its appearance last spring. Mr. Hudson's work is one to be commended without reserve, dainty in its exterior and valuable in its contents. Within the compass of a duodecimo volume it compresses the most desirable special information concerning the birds which make their home for any portion of the year within the territory of the British Islands, and includes also the essential parts of the rudimentary science of ornithology. A prefatory chapter explaining the anatomy of a bird is from the skilful pen of an adept in such exposition, Mr. Frank E. Beddard, F.R.S. It is

*North American Shore Birds. By Daniel Giraud Elliot, F.R.S.E., Curator in the Field Columbian Museum. New York: Francis P. Harper.

British Birds. By W. H. Hudson, C.M.Z.S. New York: Longmans, Green, & Co.

Game Birds at Home. By Theodore S. Van Dyke. New York: Fords, Howard & Hulbert.

couched in language so simple that a child should be able to comprehend and enjoy it. By way of conclusion, a brief account is added of the scheme of classification adopted by the ornithologists of England. Then follow condensed sketches of the habits and manners of more than two hundred separate species of birds, beginning with the thrushes and ending with the auks. Each sketch is headed by a technical description of the bird under notice, and in many cases with an exquisite portrait in black and white. The volume is further illustrated by eight plates in color, which, like the drawings, are executed with admirable delicacy and truth.

One has to read but a single chapter in "Game Birds at Home," by Mr. T. S. Van Dyke, to discern that the author treats his subject with a sympathy equal to his knowledge. All the qualities of the true sportsman are his. First of these is a passionate love of Nature in every form and phase, and this prompts him to study her patiently and faithfully. He knows every tree and flower in the region around him, not only by its name but by its minutest features. He has the same familiar acquaintance with the animals, although with it he has the fondness of the hunter for bringing down his game. The book is written, in fact, from the sportsman's standpoint—as though the author were talking to some fellow-sportsman, recounting, as such never tire of doing, exciting incidents in the field which have their date in the past, but renew their life in vivid recollections. It is to such comrades in spirit that the book will appeal, and probably with the same pleasant effect as have Mr. Van Dyke's previous works of a kindred character.

SARA A. HUBBARD.

LIFE OF THE PRINCE OF ORANGE.*

It could have required no little courage in Miss Ruth Putnam, author of a new life of the Prince of Orange, to undertake to cover again the ground that Motley has made so peculiarly his own. The result, however, fully justifies her undertaking; for the difference in point of view, the use of new material discovered since Motley wrote, the biographic form of the work, and the newer method of historical writing, all make the book a distinct contribution to our knowledge of the man and the period in which he lived, and to American scholarly achievement.

Miss Putnam has followed Motley quite closely through the tangled politics of the time, the relations of the several provinces to one another, to Spain and to outside countries, and the patient efforts of the Prince of Orange to unite them against the oppressor; but she has read in those same documents some different motives and characteristics that give her portrait of the Prince another aspect and a new interest. Yet it is the same man that appears in these pages, and our estimate of his greatness is confirmed by the result of this different treatment. For Miss Putnam does not write with the blind enthusiasm of the hero-worshipper, but with an excess of caution against that very enthusiasm. One cannot imagine her giving those thrilling dramatic pictures in which Motley's volumes abound, and when she even approaches enthusiasm she seems to hold herself up lest she should be betrayed out of her self-contained and almost plodding gait. There is in this work nothing of the grand style of the classic historians, but a plain, judicial account of the man and his work, his perplexities and disappointments, his patient steadfastness when everything seemed lost, his growth from absolutism and religious indifference to liberalism and spirituality. Strong as is the fascination of Motley's brilliant word-pictures, one turns almost with relief from his strains of unmixed eulogy to the cool account in these volumes, where defects are pointed out as well as excellences, and no attempt is made to cover over the weaknesses of the great leader. Accordingly, we have here "the man under the dust of the past," and not a glorified heroic portrait.

The key to Miss Putnam's conception of the Prince of Orange is found in the sub-title of her book. It is a moderate man that she sees in him, a cautious and conservative statesman, whose career is a gradual development, whose opposition to his king was forced upon him, and not a religious or political enthusiast who worked up a revolution. While Motley makes his opposition to Spanish tyranny mainly religious, dating from the revelations of the French king in the forest of Vincennes, Miss Putnam attributes it to his indignation at the invasion of the political rights of the Netherlands, and fails to see much of heart religion in him until the later years of his life. That utterance of his which is taken for the motto of this work

* WILLIAM THE SILENT, PRINCE OF ORANGE. The Moderate Man of the Sixteenth Century. The Story of his Life as Told from his own Letters, from those of his Friends and Enemies, and from Official Documents. By Ruth Putnam. In two volumes. New York: G. P. Putnam's Sons.

shows his character, and in the sixteenth century could have been uttered only by a moderate man who cared more for the essentials of religion than for the differences that made the divisions of the Christian church bitterly hostile to one another: "This difference is too slight for you to remain separated." His training could well have made him tolerant beyond his age, for he was born of earnest Lutheran parents, was reared a Catholic, and then in the course of his life-struggle was led back through Lutheranism to Calvinism. His moderate conservatism made him an object of distrust to the partisans on both sides, and often seemed likely to destroy his influence with the people. But when the radical partisans had brought disaster upon their cause, the weight of William's character, the evident sincerity of his devotion to the popular cause, and the proved wisdom of his advice, brought them back to him with renewed confidence.

Another of William's qualities, barely noticed by other writers but given almost undue prominence by Miss Putnam, is his craving for sympathy. It was indeed a characteristic, as his letters plainly show, but hardly so excessive as to become the weakness this book would make it. On the other hand, Miss Putnam is not blinded to the self-seeking ambition and the Macchiavellian subtlety that in more than one instance marred the fair outline of his career. For example, Motley cannot explain his leaving his oldest son in the power of the Spaniards when he fled from the Netherlands; but Miss Putnam acknowledges that he probably risked his son in the hope that he might save his Netherland estates.

A pathetic feature of William's career is that it was cut off before he could know that all his sacrifices and his suffering would result in success, and that he had made for himself one of the great names of history. Things were almost at their worst in the summer of 1584, after the deceptive successes of the preceding year. Washington and Lincoln lived to know that they had founded and saved their country. William left all in confusion and even apparent decline, the southern provinces back under the Spanish rule, and the northern despondent and not yet roused to the desperation that finally was too much for even Parma's genius and Philip's stubborn determination. The northern union that at last won national independence was organized against his wishes, for his ideal was unity and freedom for all the provinces.

Miss Putnam's work is a genuine biography, and not a history masquerading under a false name. Much attention is given to William's domestic affairs, and much of the interest of the book lies in its direct and indirect descriptions of the Nassau family — the noble mother and brothers, and the close ties, reaching almost the clannish spirit, that bound them together, the spirit of mutual devotion and self-sacrifice. The story of William's four marriages and of his married life is also most interesting, and reveals much as to his character. All but one of these marriages were politic, and only in that one did he find the sympathy and comfort that he craved. His second wife, Anne of Saxony, was a thoroughly bad woman.

The publishers have given the work a most fitting and beautiful dress, and enriched it with more than fifty portraits, copies of old prints, and *fac similes*. Altogether it is a very satisfactory piece of work, and deserves high commendation.

CHARLES H. COOPER.

PHENOMENA AND PROBLEMS OF SOCIETY.*

The methods of grouping the phenomena of society are by no means settled. Each author arranges the same material in a different way. Out of the conflict and comparison of many forms of analysis we shall secure a better form than any yet devised. In "Social Theory," Dr. Bascom employs a method very similar to the one used in his earlier work on "Sociology," but here the analysis has been carried much further. Five groups of social factors are treated: Customs, Economics, Civics, Ethics, and Religion. All the phenomena

*SOCIAL THEORY. By John Bascom. New York: T. Y. Crowell & Co.

STATISTICS AND SOCIOLOGY. By Richmond Mayo-Smith, Ph.D. New York: Macmillan & Co.

EVOLUTION AND EFFORT. By Edmund Kelly, M.A., F.G.S. New York: D. Appleton & Co.

A LENT IN LONDON. By H. S. Holland, M.A., and others. London and New York: Longmans, Green, & Co.

THE EVOLUTION OF INDUSTRY. By H. Dyer, C.E., M.A., D.Sc. New York: Macmillan & Co.

CATHOLIC SOCIALISM. By Francisco S. Nitti. Translated from the Italian by Mary Mackintosh. New York: Macmillan & Co.

THE PROBLEM OF THE AGED POOR. By Geoffrey Drage. New York: Macmillan & Co.

POOR-LAWS OF MASSACHUSETTS AND NEW YORK. By John Cummings, Ph.D. New York: American Economic Association.

TRUSTS, OR INDUSTRIAL COMBINATIONS AND COALITIONS IN THE UNITED STATES. By E. von Halle. New York: Macmillan & Co.

INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF CHARITIES, CORRECTION, AND PHILANTHROPY. Child-Saving Work and Sociology in Institutions of Learning. Baltimore: The Johns Hopkins Press.

of social life are regarded as coming within these groups, and as belonging to them by virtue of inherent likeness. The analysis of phenomena and the interpretation of their existence are not treated apart from recommendations as to their improvement. These recommendations are put forward as the chief purpose of the treatise. The social movements of reform are treated under the factors of society, the reform of the press, socialism, single tax, the labor movement to secure shorter hours and higher wages, profit-sharing, extension of political control over monopolies, charities, corrections, education, improvements in taxation, arbitration of national disputes, religious progress and influence. The author's long experience in public affairs, his wide reading, his reflection on events, his shrewd insight, have enriched his pages with many suggestive and thought-provoking sentences. Many of the metaphors carry one's mind into the heart of a great theme and assist the memory in retaining the impression. For popular presentation, the dogmatic and oracular style of treatment is effective and suitable. But a careful reading compels one to ask for further discussion and different method. The definition of sociology (page 8) is, "a knowledge of the facts of society, the order in which they follow one another, and their causes and reasons." The author begins each part with a discussion of facts and their causal explanation, but everywhere his mind goes far beyond the limits of his definition, for he erects ideals for the future and seeks to have them realized in action. The definition is not large enough for his book, and it is not the book which is blamed. The standard and touchstone of social conduct is given at the start (page 3), as "that final, comprehensive product — the public welfare." In every chapter this idea controls the current of thought. Domestic activity, customs, political and economical methods, church work, are all compelled to pass under this measure. And yet one will search the book in vain for a clear and definite statement of the elements which enter into this criterion of welfare. No doubt all the essential elements are implicit in the discussion, but the aim of the author would have been made more clear and powerful by a complete and explicit analysis of a very complex conception. He has made an important advance beyond his earlier work, in giving a more prominent place to the domestic institution; and many of his suggestions are very instructive and inspiring. But he places the discussion under the head of "Customs" and along with "Classes." It would be difficult to imagine a more incongruous or illogical arrangement. The title of the part does not cover the contents. His method confines him (page 5) to "phases of progress offered by our own and by English society," and some of the most important arguments for monogamic marriage come from its earlier history. One often agrees with the writer in his conclusions, while objecting to the method of reaching them. Just now, in the study of sociology, we need fact rather than wings, statistical method and historical investigation more than rapid flights from premises assumed to conclusions desired. At the present stage of the science, the method is of supreme moment; and for special students the method of this book is not beyond criticism. With all abatements due to defects of the author (or of the critic), we have here a work which will be read, and which all interested in social thought and social reform will find helpful. It will assist the wholesome tendency of our time to regard every question in the light, not of class interests, but of the common welfare. And this common welfare is defined in terms of the highest and noblest achievements of the human spirit, and not in terms of savage life or benumbed spirituality.

An exceedingly useful work on "Statistics and Sociology" is given us by Professor Mayo-Smith. The scientific mind is never satisfied until the forces which are the objects of study have been measured. There are many very important facts which cannot be brought into mathematical formulas, but the unscientific thinker is too easily contented with a general description when an accurate statistical conclusion might be reached if only we take pains enough. From a vast range of reliable sources, Professor Mayo-Smith, an expert in statistical methods, has brought together a mass of ordered materials which bear on social problems; and students of sociology are deeply his debtors. Many vague notions and insecure theories will be tested by the yard-stick of this book, and no serious worker can afford to ignore it. Early in the book (page 6) there is a "classification of social phenomena." While the author is careful to indicate that the "method of statistical observation is not of universal application," the unpracticed reader needs to have the suggestion emphasized. By virtue of its purpose, the book itself may produce in some minds the impressions that the phenomena which are "imponderable" are non-existent or unimportant. The classification as given is sufficient for a bare outline, and will suggest the place where the measured facts belong; but the more ample treatment of Spencer, De Greef, and Schäffle should be constantly compared. It is a distinct merit of the work that the data compiled are arranged in a way to excite interest and lead to results. At the beginning of each chapter the mind is awakened by the question, What is the purpose of this investigation? Then the available data bearing on the problem are given and are sifted by scientific tests, while in the "reflective analysis" the results are summarized. Under the head "Demographic," the relevant material in respect to sex, age, and conjugal condition, births, marriages, deaths, sickness, and mortality, are presented. Under the title "Social" we have a similar treatment of social condition (families and dwellings, education, religious confessions, occupations), the infirm and dependent, suicide, and crime. Race and nationality, and migration, come under the rubric "Ethnographic"; and the closing book on "Environment" discusses population and land

(physical environment), and population and civilization (social environment). In a second volume the author proposes to cover the ground of "statistics of commerce, trade, finance, and economic social life generally." Its appearance will be awaited with eager interest. In the present work, the treatment suffers from the absence of a distinct conception of the standards and criteria of social welfare. Nowhere do we find stated with sufficient clearness the test of the worth of a social arrangement or tendency. The criteria by which the accuracy of statistics themselves is to be judged are given by the author; but the "reflective analysis" would yield a clearer result if we were told more definitely on what principles the actions, customs, and institutions are to be held as more or less valuable to society.

"Evolution and Effort," by Mr. Edmund Kelly, concludes with a summary of the argument: "No human being is so circumstanced but that he can contribute to make life less hard for those about him; that it is to religious sentiment, and to religious sentiment alone, whether within the pale of the Church or without, that humanity can look for the exercise of the self-restraint necessary for this end; that human suffering can be dealt with most efficaciously by the action of the State." The ministers of the churches should help in the organization of non-partisan and unsectarian associations for the study of social needs and promoting the efficiency of the municipal and other local governments. Some of the particular discussions are very suggestive and stimulating,— as, for example, the author's recommendations in respect to pauper colonies. The speculative elements are not always sharply distinguished from the judgments resting on facts, and one feels in reading such books that he has, after all, only the individual opinion of an intelligent man.

The sermon form is not adapted to exhaustive and systematic discussions of social science, and the clerical temperament is not, as a rule, judicial. So much is illustrated in "A Lent in London," by the Rev. H. S. Holland and others. And yet it is a valuable collection of sermons, and the pages glow with inspiration and sympathy. If one turns to these pages for definite social programmes, he will be disappointed. There is some erroneous and heretical economics, some vague declamation. But these men live near the people. One of them was a layman before he was a clergyman, and says: "I have tried, even after I was ordained, to preserve my common sense." His contribution proves that he succeeded, for Mr. Dolling's ordination did not prevent him from uttering most unpalatable truths in a wholesome way. The tendency of this volume is toward the "socialistic" camp; at least, community direction of community interests is strongly urged. The book will kindle that passion for humanity which is the sustaining motive of social investigation and of humane service after the truth has been found and formulated.

"The Evolution of Industry," by Mr. H. Dyer, is an attempt to show the relation of economic interests to the general interests of society, and to depict the process of development from lower to higher stages. The common welfare is set forth as the goal of all social efforts, and this welfare includes all the satisfactions of man's physical and spiritual nature. A rapid survey of the physical conditions of progress is followed by a discussion of the historical growth of the modern industrial system out of the mediæval methods. This survey includes a treatment, very brief and general, of guilds, the domestic industry, the factory system, trades unions, the work of women, coöperation, municipal and state control, and industrial training. The two concluding chapters on industrial guilds and industrial integration are the prophetic portions. Here the author passes, and without very distinct notice, from description and interpretation of past facts to a personal opinion of what ought to be in the future. His purpose is rather to show the logic of events and the drift of the period than to test the value of particular movements. The conclusion is: "The society of the not very distant future will have an admixture of individualism, trades unionism, coöperation, and municipal and state socialism. The present duty of all social reformers is to educate public opinion in the direction of their ideals."

The Catholic Church, under the leadership of great bishops and the Pope, is thoroughly committed to a discussion of industrial questions. Professor Nitti's work on "Catholic Socialism" is now translated from the Italian for readers of English. While it is somewhat declamatory in style, it is very important. The various forms of ecclesiastical activity in respect to the labor question, on the continent, in Great Britain, and in America, are carefully described, and the bibliography is very complete. Here is a power to be counted with, and those who wish to understand it will peruse these chapters with keen interest.

The German insurance laws have attracted the attention of the civilized world, and provoked discussion of state aid to workingmen in countries which have usually avoided "paternal" legislation. The schemes for old-age pensions which bear the influential names of Charles Booth and Joseph Chamberlain have been the theme of much discussion in England, and governmental inquiries and proposals have brought the topic within the field of practical politics. There is no consensus of opinion on the subject. Mr. Geoffrey Drage, in his book on "The Problem of the Aged Poor," makes a contribution of considerable interest to the discussion; and our situation in America is not so different from that in Europe that we can safely pass it by without attention. As our cities grow larger and more numerous, we shall be seeking a method of caring for honest people in old age without the humiliations attending the reception of public and private charity. Mr. Drage has, before proposing his own position, carefully stated the arguments of all the more important schools of thought, and has collected

data for independent judgment. First of all, the facts relating to the extent and causes of old-age pauperism are related, and the social apparatus for dealing with it in England is described — the poor law, charity, and thrift. The inquiries of the Royal Commission and of Mr. Charles Booth are compared. In Part II. we have a succinct and clear statement and criticism of the various schemes proposed in England by Mr. Chamberlain, Canon Blackley, Mr. C. Booth, Mr. Bartley, Mr. Wilkinson, and Professor Marshall. The accounts of the poor-law and workingmen's insurance in Germany and Denmark are too brief to be entirely satisfactory, and need to be supplemented by the study of Mr. John Graham Brooks. Mr. Drage does not favor state pensions, because he thinks they are not necessary, that they would tend to destroy the independent friendly societies and the spirit of self-help which they represent, and that they are impracticable. He believes that with a vigorous use of the poor-law machinery pauperism will continue to be reduced in amount, and that the energy of the laboring population and their societies will gradually take care of the infirm and aged. But the grounds of a different conclusion are fairly stated. Unfortunately, the experiments on the Continent are too young to help us far toward a conclusion.

Mr. John Cummings has done a careful piece of work in his account of the poor-law methods in New York and Massachusetts. The systems adopted in the early history of those two states differed in important particulars in relation to the local and general authorities. This difference in principle reappears in the legislation of the newer states which have followed New York or Massachusetts in these matters. It was worth while to trace the development of both plans from the colonial period to the present time, and the author has done this with great care, drawing his information at first-hand from documents and original authorities. In the appendix the immigration and contract-labor laws are printed.

The discussion of Ernest von Halle on Trusts in the United States appeared first in the publications of the German "Verein für Social-Politik," and his positions have already been examined. The present book is more than a translation of the original essay, and contains important additional material. We have a review of the earlier attitude toward monopolies in this country; of the progress of trusts before the recent anti-trust legislation; the various forms of organization, loose and amorphous associations, formal contractual agreements, and combinations where all interests are connected in temporary or permanent pooling and concentrating arrangements; the natural, quasi-natural and legal monopolies, and the economic causes which call them into existence. The author believes that while protective tariffs and advantageous bargains with railroads have affected the growth of trusts and pools, "these are only two of the many points to be considered, and not even the most prominent ones. . . . They may rightly be called *capitalistic* combinations." The chief motives which lead to these combinations are larger and surer profits, while the desire for power and social position, in a country which does not particularly honor distinction in political or literary or scientific fields, is a strong incentive. Even in the absence of trusts, the small producer must often succumb to the larger industry, for in many lines the great capital can produce more cheaply than the small capital. The author does not spare criticism of the defects and abuses of trusts, and is specific in his charges against several of them, as the Standard Oil, Sugar, and Distillery trusts. A chapter is devoted to the legislation and judicial decisions on the subject, and another to public opinion in respect to combinations. In the appendix, valuable documents and a full biography are printed. The author does not attempt to foretell the future, but recommends that the present anti-trust legislation be repealed, because it has proved inefficient and leads to immorality in politics and to disrespect for law. His general attitude as to remedial measures is shown in this sentence: "No author has conceived better the meaning of the corporation problem for the Commonwealth than Henry C. Adams. He asks for *publicity*, publication of the results and the ways in which they were reached, a control through public bodies, and a responsibility of the individual member of the administration of the corporation for the observance of the necessary restrictions."

The papers read before the International Congress of Charities, Correction, and Philanthropy, were valuable contributions of specialists in various departments, and they are printed in several volumes. We have before us the discussions on "The Care of Dependent, Neglected, and Wayward Children" and "Sociology in Institutions of Learning." This part is particularly interesting and valuable to those whose benevolent work lies in the most hopeful field of philanthropy, the care of the young. Mr. Homer Folks, whose success in Pennsylvania is so well known, contributes two papers on family life for dependent and wayward children. It would help to clear the atmosphere in Illinois if his judgment were followed, and our commonwealth would honor itself by asking him and Mr. Birtwell to serve on a commission to draft a plan of state care of such children. No subject is of deeper concern for us just now, and if this book could be carefully studied in women's clubs this winter it would assist in directing public opinion along the right path. The essays on instruction in social subjects show that colleges have made great advance of recent years, and that the stubborn conservatism of the theological schools begins to melt a little under the genial rays of modern humanitarianism. But much of the instruction is still desultory and fragmentary. The truths hidden in the glad message, however, will find a voice in due time, and men will draw the conclusions from the abstract principles which they teach. C. R. Henderson.

Holiday Publications.

I.

The approach of Christmas-tide again brings round the pleasant, if always rather perplexing, task of preparing a summary descriptive list of the new Holiday publications. As heretofore, the earlier arrivals are given priority of notice in our columns, the later ones being reserved for the issue of December 16. At the present writing the indications are that this year, as last, publishers generally are well on the conservative side, both as to the amount and the costliness of their output; the tendency being still in the direction of prettily-mounted and moderate-priced reprints of old favorites. And what better gift is there for any time or occasion than a tasteful copy of a good book? The cumbrous, highly-ornate, and correspondingly expensive quartos and folios once so abundant on the Christmas counters are this season conspicuously wanting — a fact due perhaps as much to sounder taste on the part of the public as to prudential considerations on that of the publishers. But while the Holiday output is naturally rather smaller and more modest than in years of "booming" trade and assured returns, it is still large enough in all conscience, and attractive enough to make the "embarrassment of riches," as usual, an obstacle in the way of choice. We may add that our impression is that in no former season has the general average of taste in the production of this class of publications been higher.

By all odds the most sumptuous publication on our Holiday list is Messrs. Harper & Brothers' "The Abbey Shakespeare," in four volumes, large octavo; being the comedies of Shakespeare, richly illustrated by Mr. Edwin A. Abbey. The text is that of the folio of 1623, with patent errors corrected, and the spelling modernized. Connoisseurs of book-making may well linger over the material and pictorial charms of this exquisite work — a really monumental one in point of luxurious equipment and artistic finish. The illustrations comprise 131 superb full-page reproductions in photogravure of Mr. Abbey's usually admirable drawings, which display throughout the artist's characteristic lightness and daintiness of handling and fancy, as well as a minute and scholarly regard to historical accuracy in point of costumes and settings, and accessories and "properties" in general, that will meet the approval of those who are nice in these incidental though considerable matters. Mr. Abbey's conceptions are pleasing as a whole, refined and graceful rather than striking, and never degenerating into burlesque. Perhaps there is an occasional want of breadth and virility — notably in his Falstaff (a marked departure, by the way, from the traditional ideal), which certainly lacks the richness, the unctuous Rabelaisian humor, with which Grützner, the delineator *par excellence* of Falstaff, has endowed the fat knight. But Grützner, again, must have made strange work of the poet's finer and daintier conceptions, the lovely women, and creatures of the fancy—Katherine, Miranda, Anne Page, Titania and her train; and here Mr. Abbey's lighter pencil is at home. These beautiful volumes, however, must be seen and examined to be appreciated. They are distinctly a credit to American book making; and we congratulate artist and publishers on a work which this season may be, all in all, safely pronounced *hors concours*.

Our Holiday list of 1891 was headed by Messrs. Little, Brown, & Co.'s "Elizabethan Songs," a choice piece of book-making that the reader is not likely to have forgotten; and this season no less hearty praise, for beauty, taste, and general attractiveness, seems to us to belong to the same firm's "Victorian Songs," a companion volume to the above, and at all points a fit casket for the gems it contains. Mr. Edmund H. Garrett is again the editor and illustrator, and Mr. Edmund Gosse succeeds the ubiquitous Mr. Lang as writer of the Introduction. The volume — a comely octavo handsomely printed on special hand-made paper, and chastely bound in white and gilt — follows the form set by its predecessor. The pictorial and decorative features comprise twenty full-page photogravure plates, an ornamental title-page in red and black with etched portrait of Queen Victoria, four vignette etchings for Introduction, table of contents, etc., and some fifty dainty head and tail pieces from pen-and-ink drawings. Mr. Garrett's designs are, as usual, graceful and pretty, rather than strong; the bits of sea-view and landscape being notably good—better, to our notion, than the figures. Space limits considered, the anthology is all that could be asked. Lightly skimming the long gamut of Victorian song, from such master-singers as Tennyson, Swinburne, and Landor, down to such lesser names as Domett and William Bell Scott, Mr. Garrett furnishes enough certainly to bear out Mr. Gosse's rather high estimate of the lyrical achievement of the period. The latter's Introduction is a thoughtful and conscientious piece of literary criticism, that adds decidedly to the value of a beautiful and well-conceived book, which is not far from our ideal of what, in a general way, a Holiday book should be.

Mr. Timothy Cole's masterly series of engravings after "Old Dutch and Flemish Masters," which have for some time past formed the leading pictorial feature of "The Century Magazine," are combined in a handsome and enduring art-book (Century Co.). There are thirty plates in all: five after Rembrandt, three after Hals, three after Rubens, three after Van Dyck, one each after Cuyp, Potter, Hobbema, Ruisdael, Steen, Dou, Ostade, and so on. Mr. Cole's skill shows throughout the flawless workmanship, the delicate rendering of individualities of mind and handling, that make his earlier series after the Italian painters probably the best extant group of translations of those works. Fidelity to the originals has plainly been Mr. Cole's ideal; and it is interesting to note that to secure this he has availed himself, in an ingenious and perfectly

legitimate way, of photography. In each case he has prepared his engraving with the original painting before him, the photograph being thrown upon the block and its errors and deficiencies corrected by constant comparison with the original. Mr. Cole's fidelity to his models is not, however, merely mechanical. His work has been not only the patient exercise of a refined handicraft, but a labor of love and artistic zeal, an effort to grasp and transfer the breath and finer spirit of the great works before him. While the plates in the present work as a whole necessarily fall short of Mr. Cole's Italian series in the ideal beauty and elevation of sentiment peculiar to the genius of that school, their subjects are less familiar, and they offer exceptional advantages to actual students of art. In the mastery of pure technique the painters of Holland and Flanders have rarely been approached, and never excelled. Except the engraver's pithy and characteristic notes, the text of the present volume is furnished by Professor John C. Van Dyke — which is equivalent to saying that it is precisely the element of sound, serious, and scholarly criticism and appreciation needed to supplement Mr. Cole's work and give it its full educative value. Besides the descriptive matter accompanying each engraving, Professor Van Dyke provides an Introduction of some fourteen pages, which is not only a brilliant piece of writing, but the best condensed critical and comparative summary of Dutch Art that we can recall.

Messrs. George Bell & Co.'s "Masterpieces of Great Artists" (imported by Macmillan), uniform in make-up with their popular "Raphael's Madonnas" of last year, is a rather sumptuous volume, the aim of which is to bring together trustworthy reproductions of representative mediæval and renaissance masterpieces. There are forty-two illustrations, representing thirty-one painters; and the reproductions have in each case been made from photographs of the originals, and not from copies or engravings. Eight of the plates are in photogravure, and the rest in half-tone, the former being excellent examples of the process, while two or three of the latter — among them, unfortunately, Raibolini's (Francia's) fine Pietà, of the London National Gallery — are slightly marred in the printing. The average, however, is high, and the subjects have been well chosen. Notably good plates are: Holbein's "The Meier Madonna"; the superb "Bacchus and Ariadne" of Titian; Moroni's "Portrait of a Tailor"; Rembrandt's "Portrait of an Old Woman"; and "The Creation of Man," detail from the Sistine Chapel frescoes. The text, comprising a brief Introduction and a page or so of description and comment with each illustration, is by Mrs. Arthur Bell, better known to art readers by her pseudonym, N. D'Anvers.

An acceptable addition to the literature of Napoleonic times is "The Romance of Prince Eugène" (Dodd, Mead & Co.), in two octavo volumes, translated from the French of M. Albert Pulitzer, by Mrs. B. M. Sherman. While the work is not a Holiday publication in the strict sense of that rather elastic term, its sumptuous setting and pictorial attractions make it a handsome and suitable gift-book. Eugène Beauharnais was an estimable and amiable man, whose private and domestic virtues won additional lustre from their comparative rarity among his compeers; and it is the graceful and romantic side of his character, as reflected in his letters to his wife, the beautiful Princess Augusta of Bavaria, that is mainly brought to view in the present work. "All the world loves a lover," and it is pleasant to note that these letters, written during the stirring scenes and anxieties of the Napoleonic epopee, and amid the trials and perils of the great campaigns in which the writer participated, are true love-letters to the end, one of the latest of them closing with the sentiment, "Our mutual love is the only sure happiness that we can look forward to." The author has drawn a graphic and pleasing picture of Eugène, sketching his career in sufficient detail, and weaving into the narrative many striking episodes of the times. The volumes are elegantly bound in sea-green cloth, stamped with emblematic designs in crimson and gold; and the text is well printed on excellent paper. There are twelve portraits, including Prince Eugène, the Princess Augusta, Josephine, Hortense, Murat, Pauline and Elise Bonaparte, Mme. Bonaparte, Eugène's children, and others.

It is pretty difficult to tell whether the pictorial or the literary element of the large octavo volume "Pictures of Rustic Landscape" (Longmans) is to be considered its leading feature and real *raison d'être*. The former element consists of thirty full-page woodcuts after Mr. Birket Foster; and the latter of as many passages in prose or verse, selected by Mr. John Davidson, and possessing a correspondence more or less close (or remote) with the text. From either point of view the book is pleasing, and should find favor with those who love rural nature, its art and literature. Mr. Davidson has made his selections with taste, and has managed to maintain in most cases a discernible degree of harmony between plate and text. Among the writers represented are Walton, Wordsworth, Hazlitt, Emerson, Taine, Thompson, Cowper, Burroughs, and Jefferies. Oddly enough, Thoreau's name is missing. The engravings are acceptably done, and there is a good portrait of Mr. Foster.

At the head of the list of old favorites in new form is the "Buckthorne" edition of Irving's "Tales of a Traveller" (Putnam). Little need be said in the way of general description of these two handsome volumes, which are gotten up in the style of the same publishers' familiar "Agapida," "Darro," and "Von Twiller" editions of "The Conquest of Granada," "The Alhambra," and "The Knickerbocker History of New York," respectively, of past seasons. The most striking decorative feature of the present work is, as before, the tinted border framing the text on each page, the present design showing a delicate combination of silver-gray and pale

salmon. Mr. George Wharton Edwards is responsible for most of the ornamentation, including the rather florid cover-design; while the twenty-five full-page illustrations are mainly from new drawings by Messrs. F. S. Church, Frederick Dielman, J. Wilson, Allan Barraud, and H. Sandham. The artists have acquitted themselves well, and the work ranks with the best of the season's publications.

A very charming edition, in two trim 16mo volumes, of that sweet and genuine English classic, Gilbert White's "Natural History of Selborne," is issued by Messrs D. Appleton & Co., printed from the text and with the new letters of the Buckland edition. The volumes are liberally and tastefully illustrated by Mr. Clifton Johnson; and Mr. John Burroughs has furnished an Introduction in which he draws a loving and sympathetic portrait of his author, and discusses the secret of the longevity and perennial charm of his work — "one of the few books," he avers, "which I can return to and re-read every six or seven years." Let us add that the qualities which have kept White's "Selborne" fresh and sweet while so many learned treatises on its theme have sunk to their kindred dust, are the dominant ones in Mr. Burroughs's own fragrant pages.

A new two-volume edition of Mrs. Jane G. Austin's popular historical novel, "Standish of Standish," that fastidious book-buyers will find hard to resist is issued by Messrs. Houghton, Mifflin & Co. Timeliness of theme and quiet elegance of make-up combine to make the work one of the most desirable gift-books of the season. The pictorial feature is twenty full-page illustrations by Mr. Frank T. Merrill, whom we heartily congratulate on the really high artistic quality of his work. There are few plates in this series that are not gems in their class — graceful and spirited in conception, and sound in execution. It is a pleasure to welcome such refined and finished productions from the pencil of a native illustrator. Of Mrs. Austin's popular romance we need only say that it is at once picturesque and scholarly, presenting in the form most generally attractive a phase of our national life-story that is just now the subject of widespread and deserved, if somewhat belated, interest.

Messrs. Houghton, Mifflin & Co.'s new edition of Longfellow's "Hiawatha" is a model one for practical use, and luxurious enough withal to make it a suitable Holiday gift. The art feature is twenty-two full-page photographic plates from designs originally made by Mr. Frederic Remington for the elaborate edition of the poem issued by the same firm five seasons ago, the plates being now considerably reduced. For practical purposes, the present handier and more modest form is much the better. Mr. Remington's designs are, as usual, remorselessly realistic — too much so, we think, for their illustrative aim and poetical setting. Here, Mr. Remington could probably furnish cogent arguments *contra;* but we wish, nevertheless, he had thought fit to idealize, or "Cooperize," his more uncompromisingly ugly "bucks" and "squaws" a little in the interests of sentiment. The volume contains a portrait of Mr. Longfellow, from an original of 1840, and there is an Introduction, together with ample notes.

Very tasty and practical is Messrs. Houghton, Mifflin & Co.'s Christmas edition of Longfellow's "The Courtship of Miles Standish," with many illustrations, full-page and vignette, after the designs of Messrs. Boughton, Merrill, Reinhart, Shapleigh, and other well-known delineators of Puritan life. Besides an Introduction sketching the inception and growth of the poem, as indicated in Mr. Longfellow's journal and letters, there are copious historical notes, which, with the accompanying woodcuts, will materially assist the reader's comprehension and enjoyment of this graceful Puritan pastoral. Bright, open type, pliant, lightly glazed paper, and a modestly decorative cover of maroon and gilt, make up a tempting *ensemble*.

A new and revised edition of Mr. Joel Chandler Harris's inimitable "Uncle Remus," with an added feature in the shape of a hundred and twelve vignettes from the whimsical pencil of Mr. A. B. Frost, together with a frontispiece showing the aged fabulist pouring his marvels into the ear of the little boy, is attractively issued by Messrs. D. Appleton & Co. Mr. Frost's conceptions of "Brer Rabbit," "Brer B'ar," etc., are indescribably funny,—plainly the one element needed to round out "Uncle Remus" and make it "a joy forever." In addition to the fables, the book contains Songs and Sayings of "Uncle Remus," together with "Plantation Revels" and "A Story of the War." Mr. Harris furnishes an Introduction which will interest those inclined to view the stories from the folk-lorist's standpoint.

Mr. Thomas Nelson Page's familiar tale of Old Virginia, "Unc' Edinburg," is now issued by Messrs. Charles Scribner's Sons in a neatly appointed small-folio volume, similar to their editions of the same author's "Marse Chan" and "Meh Lady." The illustrator is Mr. B. West Clinedinst, who shows a good appreciation of his author, and the due familiarity with "Old Dominion" types. Everyone who reads Mr. Page at all should read "Unc' Edinburg," for it is decidedly one of the best things he has done — and Mr. Page is easily chief in his chosen literary province. Somehow these romantic little stories of his, which we take to be at bottom reminiscent of a past social phase more than half regretted by the author, leave an impression that if the war wiped out a great moral wrong and national stain, it also did away with a good deal that was beautiful and picturesque in our somewhat prosaic and uniform civilization.

Messrs. Dodd, Mead & Co.'s tastefully ornate edition of Goldsmith's "She Stoops to Conquer," uniform with the firm's "The Rivals," "The School for Scandal," etc., of former seasons, will doubtless find friends among seekers of pretty yet inexpensive gift-books. The illustrator this time is Mr. F. C. Gordon, and he has done fairly well, though his

drawings generally are hardly up to the requirements of the text in the qualities of *verve* and humor. Two or three of the plates are not unworthy of Mr. Abbey, while some of them are rather mediocre. The book is showily bound in dark-green cloth with gold stamping, and the text is clearly printed on rather thick glazed paper, full gilt.

A very inviting edition of Charles Reade's fine novel, "Christie Johnstone" (Dodd, Mead & Co.), is likely to prove one of the season's favorites. The story, it is needless to say, is one of Reade's best—capital as a story, and vivid and life-like as a picture of a piquant phase of Scotch life and manners. Walter Scott himself has scarcely done anything better in their way than one or two of the episodes—Christie's famous tongue-duel, for instance, with ill-starred Beeny Liston. The plates in the volume are so good, for the most part, as to make the omission of the artist's name rather surprising; and, altogether, print, paper, binding, and press-work, combine to make up a material *ensemble* worthy of the story.

Eugène Sue's ever-fascinating romance, "The Wandering Jew," once more emerges in a new garb, this time in two generous 12mo volumes from the press of Messrs. T. Y. Crowell & Co., whose neat and inexpensive editions of standard books we have often commended. The volumes contain eighteen full-page illustrations, including two frontispieces in photogravure. The original Chapman & Hall version, probably the best, has been reprinted from new plates; and, altogether, the edition, like other similar ventures of this firm's, is all, and rather more, than might be expected for the price.

Mr. F. Marion Crawford's graphic papers on "Constantinople," with twenty-eight illustrations by Mr. E. L. Weeks, are reprinted in tempting style by Messrs. Charles Scribner's Sons. The theme is a congenial one to Mr. Crawford's rather florid pen, and he makes the shifting panorama of the city of the Golden Horn pass vividly before us in its prismatic contrasts and cosmopolitan variety. Mr. Weeks's drawings, notably a fine study of an Armenian and a view of Galata bridge, are satisfactory, and bear out the glowing descriptions of the text. Mr. Crawford inclines to take a very favorable view of the Turk, that is, the real Turk, whom he styles "a fine fellow, belonging to the superior and dominant races of the world. . . . He is sober; he is clean; and he is honest, even to his own disadvantage, being by no means a match for the wily Greeks and Armenians, who are perpetually fattening on his heart." The conception of the Turk as an injured innocent preyed on by Armenians is a novel, and, just now, a rather startling one. Perhaps Mr. Crawford would regard this "fine fellow's" recent performances as justifiable, if somewhat stern, reprisals.

Three new volumes in The Century Co.'s tiny "Thumb-Nail Series" are: "The Rivalries of Long and Short Codiac," by George Wharton Edwards; "A Madeira Party," by Dr. S. Weir Mitchell; and "Notes of a Professional Exile," by E. S. Nadal. Mr. Edwards once more finds his theme and types among the hardy fisher-folk of the islands off the Maine coast, a region pleasantly exploited in his "P'tit Matinic."—Dr. Mitchell's book offers two heretofore unpublished sketches: the one from which the volume takes the title, and a bizarre story of the French Revolution entitled "A Little More Burgundy." The plot of the latter tale is ingenious enough. A family of suspects hide themselves from the fury of the Jacobins in a wine-celler, the entrance to which is finally closed against them. The cellar communicates with the catacombs; and here the fugitives lose their way and wander about for days, emerging opportunely just as the arch-terrorist, or arch-scapegoat, Robespierre, is overthrown and sent to "sneeze in the sack" (according to the odious slang of the day) by the Thermidorians. Dr. Mitchell makes the most of his striking situation.—Mr. Nadal, who was for some time a secretary of legation at London, presents in his little book a sheaf of sketches of life and character as seen at an imaginary continental watering-place, together with some other interesting notes and memories. The papers are pleasantly written, crisp, chatty, and shrewd, brightened with a vein of unforced humor, and sprinkled with sketches of or comments on many people famous or notorious, from Gladstone and Matthew Arnold, down to that eminent Bostonian, Mr. John Sullivan. Each of the dainty trio of volumes is full gilt, bound in stamped leather, and furnished with a frontispiece drawing and tinted title-page.

The students of the Art School at Birmingham, England, have exercised their talents to good purpose in the drawings and decorations of an art edition of Mr. S. Baring-Gould's "Book of Nursery Songs and Rhymes" (Lippincott). The text, which contains most of the old nursery favorites, is framed in freely decorated pages, each having a heavy border of conventional flowers and leaves in black-and-white. The plates are quaint pre-Raphaelite representations of the familiar nursery characters,—"Jack Horner," for example, being drawn by the artist as a severe young man of the "Bunthorne" type, who looks heartily ashamed of his frivolous Christmas-pie propensities. The editor's introduction is a humorously-written but forcible defense of the "nonsense theory" of nursery rhymes, as opposed to the archæological theory so profoundly urged by certain laborious writers. The book will amuse and entertain all persons who have not outgrown the traditions and pleasures of their childhood.

Mr. E. A. Vizetelly's English version of M. Zola's "A Love Episode" (*"Une Page d'Amour"*) is issued in a thick and rather cumbrous octavo volume by the Lippincott Co. The work is soberly mounted, and contains ninety-four passable wood-cuts after M. E. Thevenot's designs. The romance shows, perhaps, M. Zola at his best, or at any rate at his highest and cleanliest; and it proves pretty conclusively that his realism can cut below the surface,

and is not, as commonly charged, confined to outward and visible things. The account of Helene Grandchamp's struggle with passion, her fall and retribution, is profoundly pathetic,— the story, as Mr. Lang observed, of "a good and pure woman upon whom the fate of her family falls, with the result that she loves a kind of Dr. Brand Firmin, like the father of Philip in Thackeray's novel." In his preface, Mr. Vizetelly prudently observes that "whatever charges may be levelled against some of M. Zola's works, nobody can say that this tale tends to corrupt and debase; for it teaches the wholesome lesson that dereliction of duty, whatever its attendant 'extenuating circumstances,' brings with it its own harrowing punishment." One wonders what M. Zola himself might say of this eminently British appreciation of an art-work. Mr. Vizetelly's is the only authorized English version.

A dainty, moderate-priced gift-book may be found in Messrs. T. Y. Crowell & Co.'s "La Belle Nivernaise, and Other Stories," by Alphonse Daudet,— a comely 16mo, with a cover of pale green with gilt side-stamp. Besides the opening story, there are five others: "Jarjaille's Visit to the Good God," "The Fig and the Sluggard," "My First Dress-Coat," "Father Balaguère's Christmas Feast," and "The New Teacher." The text is liberally sprinkled with slight, though piquant and clever, pen-sketches — which are decidedly better than the rather insipid full-page plates. In "My First Dress-Coat," the author treats us to a pleasant bit of youthful autobiography. Of all M. Daudet's short stories, "La Belle Nivernaise" is, to our notion, the most charming; and, if one is to read it in English, the present edition is preferable to any that we now recall. Mr. Huntington Smith's rendering is satisfactory, barring an occasional tendency to put American slang into the mouth of Père Louveau—which is, after all, excusable enough, in view of the difficulty of getting a foreign equivalent for the good skipper's queer *argot*.

Lovers of droll pictures may find their account in the two large-quarto volumes entitled severally "Chip's Dogs" and "Chip's Old Woodcuts" (R. H. Russell & Son), by the late Mr. F. P. Bellew ("Chip"), who will be pleasantly remembered by readers of "Life." The first-named volume is especially funny — rather in Mr. A. B. Frost's quaint vein; and ought to suffice to expel the "blues" from anyone whose bump of humor is not, as the Irishman expressed it, "a dent." The books are neatly bound in strong boards, and printed on smooth plate paper.

Dr. William Dodd's "Beauties of Shakespeare" is an excellent anthology, and Messrs. T. Y. Crowell & Co. have made a pretty handy-edition of it, in two trim 16mo volumes. Certain judicious additions have been made to the original illustrations, and the text has been carefully revised. The volumes are printed from new plates, and there are two frontispieces in photogravure — a portrait of Shakespeare, and a Stratford view.

Books for the Young.

I.

The number of new Christmas books for children is so large this year that it seems as though the old ones must be crowded out by them. The imagination that goes to the making of such a collection might almost supply a modern school of fiction; yet here it is scattered through some half a hundred volumes, frittering away its usefulness in impractical and impossible extravagances. Brought to bear thus upon childhood, it may stimulate the heroes and geniuses who shall in the future do the world's great work; but it seems more probable that it may crush them. Nevertheless, there are a few books that compensate for the general mediocrity, which was perhaps necessary to produce the others; and no year can be called barren which brings to light a masterpiece like Mr. Kipling's "Second Jungle Book" (Century Co.). Nothing could be of more absorbing interest to children; and yet so artistic a book should not be confined to them alone. When one encounters work as original, as imaginative, as masterly as this, no words can convey an idea of the thing itself. Mr. Kipling takes all nature for his province; he seems as familiar with the flowers of the field as with the beasts of the jungle. And the truth of his statements is never doubted for an instant. His creatures are alive in every muscle, and they are not human beings masquerading in hair and claws. They are beasts, with the instincts and desires of beasts, but with emotions enough like our own to make us shudder now and then. An imagination which can make such creatures live for us, which can give us a breathless interest in their sufferings and triumphs, seems beyond the human. From the superb description of the drought in the jungle, with which the book opens, to the last tale, in which the irreconcilable, eternal difference between man and beast is borne in upon us, the book is a series of magnificent pictures. It is never still, though, but the rush of its movement has a certain stately dignity which makes one respect the Law of the Jungle. Each story is introduced and ended with a little poem, and these rhythmical songs are the work of a true poet, one of the truest poets who is writing in English to-day. Certainly no other could have conceived "Mowgli's Song against People," "Child's Song," and "The Song of the Little Hunter." They cling in the mind, like the great fight with Red Dog in the Place of Death where lived the "busy, furious Little People of the Rocks." There is a vivid directness about all these descriptions which brings them straight home.

Aside from this, the most interesting work this year is done by Mr. Joel Chandler Harris, Mr. Theodore Roosevelt, Mr. Edmondo de Amicis, Mr. Howard Pyle, Mr. James Baldwin, Mr. A. J. Church, and Mrs. Catharine Yale. Mr. Harris's book is a sequel to "Little Mr. Thimblefinger and his Queer Country," and it is called "Mr. Rabbit at Home" (Houghton). The illustrations, by Mr. Oliver Herford, are almost as charming as the stories themselves, and that is saying much. The talk between Buster John, Sweetest Susan, Drusilla, and Mr. Rabbit is delightful, never heavy, and always stimulating one's interest in the tale that follows. There is a sparkling gaiety about the book which few writers know how to attain, and it is worth any number of moral lectures. The imagination that evolved "Uncle Remus" is turned to good account in these brief stories, and they are as delightful as a keen wit, a light heart, and a whimsical fancy can make them.—Mr. Howard Pyle's style is some-

what more self-conscious, but it is good and honest nevertheless. "The Garden Behind the Moon" (Scribner) is as fascinating as its title, and the drawings by the author are a potent factor in this result. There is a wise simplicity about the style which appeals to children of all ages. "You may smile at this story if you choose," he says at the end, "and call it all moonshine, but if you do not believe by this time that there is more in moonshine than the glimmer and the whiteness, why, I could not make you believe it if I were to write a hundred and twenty-seven great books instead of this short story." But Mr. Pyle's readers do not doubt it for a moment.—"More Fairy Tales from the Arabian Nights" (Putnam) is a sumptuous volume, well printed and bound, and illustrated with J. D. Batten's beautiful decorative drawings. The text is that of Galland, 1821, somewhat abridged and edited for the young by E. Dixon; and it forms an excellent introduction to those immortal tales which have helped so long to keep the weary world young.—It was a hazardous experiment that Anna M. Richards tried in "A New Alice in the Old Wonderland" (Lippincott), and it is not at all strange that it is a failure. Those who love the original Alice will be glad to meet the familiar figures again, but they will be sorry, too, to find that they have somehow lost their old elusive charm. There is a good deal of cleverness in the book, but alas! so much less than went into the making of its prototype. And the nonsense verses have no music in them.—Mrs. Yale's fairy-tales are of a different kind from any of these. "Nim and Cum, and the Wonder-Head Stories" (Way & Williams) is as light and delicate and fanciful as a bit of Dresden china. The simple pretty allegory of the cloud story at the beginning is of a kind to delight imaginative children; and the tales which follow it seem to be borne out of the common practical world, and yet to be of it. They have the realities of life in them, but they are so deftly touched as to appear to belong to the realm of fancy. It is an artistic hand that has builded them.

The stories in "The Silver Fairy Book" (Putnam) are gathered from many sources. Sarah Bernhardt writes one, and a sadly theatrical one it is; Voltaire another, Higésippe Moreau a third, and others are drawn from the Spanish, German, and Servian. Naturally they are of different degrees of merit, but some of them are charming, delicately suggestive of large issues. The drawings by H. R. Millar are perhaps the best thing about the book, though, so genuinely original and artistic are they. In Mr. Millar's handling of black-and-white the influence of Vierge is agreeably evident.—In "Chris and the Wonderful Lamp" (Century Co.) Albert Stearns has written an amusing story of a young American who comes into possession of Aladdin's lamp. The genie who appears unexpectedly proves himself thoroughly modern, and the services he performs for Chris include taking his place in school and on the ball-field. He is clever enough, however, to outwit the boy at many points, and the manifold difficulties of the situation are described with much humor. The book is well illustrated by Reginald Birch and E. B. Bensell.—There is some humor too in "The Keeper of the Salamander's Order" (Roberts), by William Shattuck, but hardly enough to pay for making the acquaintance of the strange beasts and fishes and ogres that abound in its pages. It is a long and complicated story, and though it required some imagination to write it, it requires little to read it. The cuts are hopelessly inartistic.—Mr. J. Selwin Tait has written in a bright and graceful way of the extraordinary adventures of "Wayne and his Friends" (J. Selwin Tait & Sons). The beginning of a mythical story makes the boy dream of the most unusual deeds of prowess and daring. Ferocious beasts quail before this valiant knight, who passes among them unharmed because he is without fear.—It is delightful to find a real fairy-story like "The Elf-Errant" (Dodd, Mead & Co.), one that has the atmosphere of fairy-land, its daintiness, its flower-like grace. Miss O'Neill's style is as light as thistle-down, as exquisite as a harebell; and she has the poetic instinct which alone can make fairy-land the place of all others for children to roam in. The little book is printed on excellent paper and is admirably illustrated by W. E. F. Britten.—It is a decided contrast to "The Brownies Through the Union" (Century Co.), in which Mr. Palmer Cox shows once again a certain facility in the making of amusing little figures and sadly prosaic verses. The first Brownie book was clever, but the fifth is merely wearisome. Mr. Cox's imagination was long ago exhausted, and he is trying to repeat a former success. It is a pity that these books have become so popular, for the verses contain few ideas and no rhythm.—The set of Banbury Cross books (Macmillan), which comes in a green cloth case, will do children far more good, for they are written in excellent English and illustrated by artists. They are the familiar old stories, like "Jack the Giant-Killer," "Bluebeard," and the "Sleeping Beauty"; and the series is edited by Grace Rhys, and illustrated by R. Anning Bell and others.—Mr. S. Baring-Gould's "Old English Fairy Tales" (Way & Williams) represents, we believe, the first attempt to gather and adapt to the reading of children a representative collection of the older English folk tales and traditionary stories. Of renderings and adaptations from foreign authors, such as the brothers Grimm, Andersen, Perault, the Countess D'Aulnoy, etc., there has been no lack; but the native springs have been strangely neglected. The volume differs from the recent kindred collections of Mr. Joseph Jacobs, in that the author has gone mainly to the ancient sources, while Mr. Jacobs's stories are largely of modern origin. We may add that Mr. Baring-Gould has succeeded much better than his co-worker in talking down to the mental level of the little ones for whom his book is primarily written. Unless our memory deceives us on this point, it would take a very wise child indeed to wrestle successfully with Mr. Jacobs's diction. The volume is a tasteful and durable piece of book-making; and the fanciful full-page drawings of Mr. F. D. Bedford make it the more attractive.

Study some government reports of Indian life, through "the courtesy of the Librarian of the Smithsonian Institute" (an organization, by the way, that never existed), then thumb the already badly worn "standard works of Schoolcraft, Copway, and Catlin." When you have done so you will *know* the Indian, and his psychology will be an open book before you. Then sit down, and, with "S., C. and C." as your mine of crude material, make up some Indian stories for children. Secure an artist, badly infected with some recent fad ideas, to draw a series of astonishingly draped *Indian* fairies. All this done, combine the stories and pictures into a book for infliction on helpless childhood. In doing this you will repeat Miss Compton's labors in "Snow Bird and the Water Tiger, and Other American Indian Tales" (Dodd). She has produced a pretty book, but one which can have no reason for existence. "Indian"!

What Indian? Are Algonkin and Moki tales the same thing? Why introduce birch-bark canoes and tarantulas into the same bit of country? Does nature show us any such curious combinations? If Indian tales are good food for children, let us show the little readers that there are Indians and Indians. Any child who would enjoy Miss Compton's stories would still more enjoy Charles Godfrey Leland's "Algonquin Legends of New England" and George Bird Grinnell's "Pawnee Hero Tales" and "Blackfoot Lodge Tales"—so beautifully and naturally told. The Indian legend does not need "writing down" to a child, as Miss Compton seems to think; told just as it stands, it pleases him. The ability to express the Indian story aright comes not through the reading of government reports; it is absorbed by him or her who lives day after day with the red man. Leland's and Grinnell's stories live and breathe: Miss Compton's scarcely gasp. It is a pity that the lady, who has really a dainty and pretty style, should have undertaken this task.

It is impossible to classify "Cuore, an Italian Schoolboy's Journal" (Crowell), by Edmondo de Amicis. It stands alone, with no competition in the same field. And it has about it a wonderful serenity: this in spite of the adventurous episodes, which are by no means tame. Its influence makes for gentleness and courage, sympathy and unselfishness, loyalty and patriotism. The true democracy breathes through these pages; boys of all classes are placed upon a stern equality, and the spirit of friendly helpfulness awakened. Their teacher is a fine type and vividly rendered. The style of the book would hardly be possible to a child, yet it is written with the simplicity of childhood, and an honest boyishness hangs about it. This new edition of Isabel F. Hapgood's translation is illustrated by Italian artists but indifferently well.—"The Child's Garden of Song" (McClurg) is also unclassifiable. It contains the words and music of thirty songs, which were selected and arranged by William L. Tomlins, whose wide experience in the training of children's voices makes him an excellent judge. His reputation alone should sell the book, but it has another attraction in the pretty decorations by Ella Ricketts.

If the world were always beautiful, and children always good, and life always smooth for the virtuous and rough for the wicked, then "Two Little Pilgrims' Progress" (Scribner) would be a true story. But as things are arranged in this ungrateful old world, it would be hard to find the counterpart of Mrs. Burnett's tale. Although her two pilgrims are but twelve years old and travel alone to the World's Fair, they meet no difficulties whatever. They have no fear, they never get lost or confused, and find only courtesy and kindness. Indeed, they encounter a man who is so fascinated that he takes them about and adopts them without further parley. But that is not surprising, as two such proper children are not found twice in a lifetime. They are mentally proper, too, and they have exactly the right emotions at the right times. Their ideas assuredly are rather old for their years, and they express them in a manner that would be stilted at forty; but nevertheless sentimental mammas will probably gloat over these ancient children, and their offspring will feel guilty because they find them dull. The fact that the "City Beautiful" appears in the book is its only charm.

The group of instructive books is small this year, but it is worth all the great pile of stories of adventure put together, and there are many boys who will find it more entertaining. It contains, moreover, the book of the year, aside from Mr. Kipling's, which is an exception to every rule, the one volume which should be in the hands of every young American. The "Hero Tales from American History" (The Century Co.) are written by Henry Cabot Lodge and Theodore Roosevelt, and they are as exciting as one could desire. The preface declares that the object of the book is "to tell in simple fashion the story of some Americans who showed that they knew how to live and how to die; who proved their truth by their endeavor, and who joined to the stern and manly qualities which are essential to the well-being of a masterful race the virtues of gentleness, of patriotism, and of lofty adherence to an ideal." This the authors have done with a direct simplicity which brings the heroic deeds home to the reader with thrilling effect. The style is admirable, a thing that unfortunately cannot be often said of books for the young; and any boy who can read these tales without a quickening of the pulses and an enrichment of character must be made of stone.

In "Turning Points in Successful Careers" (Crowell) the Rev. William M. Thayer attempts to select the single moment in a man's life which has decided its direction. This is often an impossible task, so many elements usually enter into a man's choice of occupation. In some cases, therefore, Mr. Thayer has exaggerated the importance of certain decisions; and in others he has even perverted mistakes. This is true of the story of Claflin the merchant, whose abandonment of Greek and Latin for business is certainly open to question from the point of view of wisdom. Neither was it a decision which changed the current of his life, set inevitably in one direction. Still, in spite of a certain density of insight, the book gives useful accounts of the lives of eminent men.—Much the same service is performed for women in Mrs. Sarah Knowles Bolton's "Famous Leaders among Women" (Crowell). The selections are rather eccentric, but the biographies are written with vivacity and interlarded with stories. Mrs. Bolton always tries to implant a moral, but her style is a little old for young readers and a little young for older ones. — Two books by the Rev. A. J. Church will be welcomed by all boys and girls who are familiar with his work. One of them, "Roman Life in the Days of Cicero" (Macmillan), contains a series of sketches the material for which is drawn largely from Cicero's letters and speeches. They describe many things about the life of that time which the school histories always omit, things that lend reality and novelty and color to dry facts. Read in connection with the study of Roman history, it will not only be useful but eminently entertaining. Even more interesting perhaps are the "Stories from Virgil" (Macmillan), by the same author. The style in which they are told is capital, with enough quaintness to suggest the charm of the original and not too much to make it easy to read. Books of this kind are invaluable in familiarizing children with the old stories and giving them the desire in later life to read the great poets who narrate them.—Mr. James Baldwin has worked in a similar direction in his stories of "Siegfried" and of the "Golden Age," and the familiar acquaintance with mythology and legend which is thus given to a child will be delightful to him all his life. If he misses this knowledge in childhood, then so easily imparted, he can never quite make up for the loss of it afterwards. In this year's volume Mr. Baldwin has developed an original idea, and novelty is a

quality unknown to most of the current books for the young. "The Horse Fair" (Century Co.) is held in the land of Morgan the fay, to which an American boy who loves horses is conducted by Cheiron. It was a horse show such as no other mortal has been permitted to look upon. The famous chargers of all ages of the world were gathered there, and the programme of events is enough to set the slowest blood to racing. The entries were numerous and included steeds as far separated in time and quality as Pegasus, Aurora's high-jumpers, Bucephalus, Bayard, Rozinante, Ichabod Crane's Gunpowder, and the horses upon which the famous generals of the world rode to victory. The description of the fair is written with much skill, and awakens the interest of old and young.

The boys have much the best of it this year in the matter of books. The stories of adventure by sea and land are far more numerous than any others, and no boy with longings to become a pirate or a highwayman need go unencouraged. In these romances the devices of such heroes in many ages and widely different countries are described for his benefit, and he may choose whatever method of procedure pleases him best. Of course there are always nice little boys in these tales, who are captured, through no indiscretion of their own, by naughty marauders. But they suffer many hardships in their valiant efforts to avenge the wronged and punish the wicked; and though they are always triumphant in the end, their lot is not nearly so attractive as that of the pirate bold, who is ruler of men and master of the seas. After all, though, it is no unworthy object to cultivate the spirit of daring in the American youth. He is often too easily content with the commonplace realities of daily life, and it is well to stimulate his imagination and give him a glimpse of active life outside of schools and offices. The best book of this kind among those just issued is "Jack Ballister's Fortunes," written and illustrated by Howard Pyle (Century Co.). This narrates the history of an English youth of good family who was kidnapped in 1719, and taken to the colony of Virginia, where he was sold as a servant. Dissatisfied with his position, he makes his escape, only to fall into the hands of the famous "Blackbeard," whose piratical raids along the coast were a terror to ship-owners. The story of his life with these seamen, his rescue of a beautiful damsel, and his final return to home and fortune, is told so well as to be full of intense interest. The fight especially is capital, and the entire book is helped much by Mr. Pyle's drawings, which are delightful.—Mr. G. A. Henty publishes his customary three books, and each one has the semi-historical foundation which he affects. "Through Russian Snows" (Scribner) is a story of Napoleon's retreat from Moscow; "A Knight of the White Cross" (Scribner) has the siege of Rhodes for its centre; and "The Tiger of Mysore" (Scribner) deals with the war with Tippoo Saib. To any right-minded boy these subjects are certainly alluring, and Mr. Henty's skill in dealing with them is remarkable when one considers the rate of production. He has a fertile invention, a good direct style, and a knowledge of the kind of exciting incident that appeals to boys. With them these things can carry him far, even without genius. There is a picturesqueness, too, in the subjects he selects which gives the books an impetus. The fires and snows lend interest to the retreat from Moscow, the battle for his faith against the terrible but fascinating barbarian to the white Knights of St. John, and the terrors of Indian beasts and jungles and revolts to the war with Tippoo Saib. Through each of these Mr. Henty interests his readers in the fortunes of some particular hero, often a private in the ranks.—Not so skilful are the authors of "Through Forest and Plain" (Roberts), Ashmore Russan and Frederick Boyle. But they have woven an unusual tale about the journey of a collector and two boys in search of a rare orchid. Costa Rica is the scene of their adventures, and much information about tropical plants and flowers is intertwined with the exciting episodes.— It is more concise than "The Wizard King" (Lippincott), in which Mr. David Ker has told a story of the last Moslem invasion of Europe. The title is the name applied to Sobieski by the Khan of Crim-Tartary; and it would be impossible to chronicle here the hairbreadth escapes, the blood-curdling dangers, the inexhaustible gore which fill these closely-printed pages. They rather obscure the nobility of the great Pole's character.—In "Chilhowee Boys in War Time" (Crowell) Sarah E. Morrison brings us back to our own country and gives us some account of the War of 1812. The book is stilted, though, and contains much indifferent dialect. Its English, even when it is meant to be pure, is of inferior quality, and entirely unworthy the perusal of impressionable children.—Messrs. G. P. Putnam's Sons have brought out a new edition of Captain Marryat's "Mr. Midshipman Easy." It is well printed in one large volume and contains many illustrations by R. F. Zogbaum. These are so well drawn as to be a decided help to the text, and boys will find them an effective invitation to a closer acquaintance with this famous hero.—There are two books this year by Mr. Kirk Munroe, whose name is familiar to the young. One, "Snow-Shoes and Sledges" (Harper), is a sequel to "The Fur-Seal's Tooth," and it carries the same characters through a series of dangers in Alaska. The boys, in whom one becomes interested, pass through them safely and succeed in outwitting their enemies.— "At War with Pontiac, or the Totem of the Bear" (Scribner), by the same author, deals with the redskins and has a plot that is even more thrilling than the last. It contains, too, a fascinating Indian maiden, who makes herself very attractive to the stalwart American hero. The story is well written, Mr. Munroe being one of the successful makers of such books.— Oliver Optic publishes another volume in his "All-over-the-world" series, this one being entitled "Half Round the World, or Among the Uncivilized" (Lee & Shepard). Rangoon, Singapore, and Java are a few of the places visited by the floating colony in this volume, and the opportunities for novel situations are therefore rich. To those of us who read Oliver Optic as children he will always have a warm place in the memory.

Napoleon has always been a heroic figure to the young, and they will welcome with enthusiasm a book which deals as happily with him as the one which Elbridge S. Brooks has just written. "A Boy of the First Empire" (Century Co.) has for its hero a little fellow who discloses to Napoleon a plot against his life. The boy's hearty sincerity commends him to the Emperor, who makes him a page in his household. His intimate personal service to the great man tests his strength of character repeatedly, but his courage and loyalty prove equal to the test. The story shows one the brilliancy of life at court, and later the excitement of the battlefield, and its hero is sent on many a delicate and dangerous mission. The style is good and the interest never flags. The characters too are something

better than lay figures, and Mr. H. A. Ogden's illustrations are moderately good.—A different war is the subject of "Jack Alden" (Crowell), by Mr. Warren Lee Goss. He takes one through the Virginia compaigns of thirty years ago; and in his preface he says that there is "not a description of a battle or scene of the war in this story that is not true to history or to real army life." This is a valuable recommendation, especially as the real life of a soldier was too exciting to need any imaginative embellishment. The hardships the men had to endure are not neglected, and we are even taken with the hero to Libby Prison and escape with him. The materials are well handled and make a story which should awaken the dormant patriotism of everyone who reads it. — War is the subject, too, of Mr. Edward King's "Under the Red Flag" (Henry T. Coates & Co.); but in this case it is the most terrible kind of war, that of anarchy and destruction. The horrors of the Paris Commune in 1871 form the field for the development of this plot, and three American boys who are caught in the whirlpool have their fill of adventure. The few illustrations are much worse than none. — The remaining books of adventure deal with other battles than those of war. Mr. Herbert D. Ward has selected the Arctic regions for the scene of his conflict, which is but little more imaginative than many of these other tales. It is an o'ertrue tale of "A Dash to the Pole" (Lovell, Coryell & Co.), and the journey is made in an air-ship recently invented, but destined unfortunately for destruction. It served its purpose, however, in carrying an adventurous party of men and boys to the North Pole and back again, and then through a sad mistake it escaped and sailed off into space. The narrative is told with much cleverness, even to the return and the enforced concealment of the momentous discovery. — Mr. George Manville Fenn takes smuggling for his material, and in "Cormorant Crag" (Dodd, Mead & Co.) relates the history of two boys who became involved in its meshes. The book is rather prolix, but as the story is told mainly in dialogue, a child's interest will not easily flag, especially as the boys are engaged in probing fascinating mysteries and making exciting discoveries.— Even more startling are the adventures recorded in "The Desert Ship," by Mr. John Bloundelle-Burton (Warne). This narrates the search for an old Spanish galleon, wrecked long years ago in the great American desert, when it was still a sea. The success of the expedition has something weird and uncanny about it that is not quite extinguished by the too practical description of the ship's treasure. The story has all the elements of romance, and were it only more compact would be very successful. — "The Chain of Gold, or In Crannied Rocks" (Dodd, Mead & Co.) is another variation, by Mr. Standish O'Grady, in the possibilities of adventure. The "wild west coast of Ireland" is his selection, and it surprises us to find that a new series of incidents can be concocted out of old material. The style, however, is decidedly dry. — Mr. Louis Pendleton carries one south to the great Georgia swamp in his story. "In the Okefenokee" (Roberts) brings in the Rebellion again, but does not make it both centre and circumference. The illustrations, fortunately, are not numerous. — "Boris, the Bear-Hunter" (T. Nelson & Sons), by Mr. Fred. Whishaw, takes one to Russia in the time of Peter the Great.—"Hugh Melville's Quest" (Lippincott), by Mr. F. M. Holmes, goes even further back, to the days of the Armada.—Though in "The Mammoth Hunters" (Lothrop) Mr. Willis Boyd Allen returns to the present time, he describes a curious hunt for the bones of prehistoric animals in far-away Alaska.—The Indian race plays an important part in "The Young Ranchers, or Fighting the Sioux" (Henry T. Coates & Co.), by Edward S. Ellis; and also in "Roger the Ranger" (Dodd, Mead & Co.), a story of border life in which Eliza F. Pollard touches upon the conquest of French Canada by the British. The figures of Montcalm and Wolfe are conspicuous in this tale, a fact that will recommend it to all lovers of that picturesque period.—Canada is also the subject of "My Strange Rescue, and Other Stories" (Thomas Nelson & Sons), by Mr. F. Macdonald Oxley; but it is the Canada of the present time and of Mr. Oxley's lively imagination.

One of the most useful of this year's books is the "Popular History of Animals, for Young People" (Lippincott), by Henry Scherren. Its object is "to make or quicken interest in the observation of the habits of the lower animals" and in the "study of their relations to us and to each other." The volume contains many illustrations, some of them colored, which assist in making it a valuable book of reference for the young, and one which older readers should by no means disdain.—Like the last-named book, "Country Pastimes for Boys" (Longmans), by P. Anderson Graham, will give the modern youth some new resources. It is avowedly written rather for the solitary boy than for those who are surrounded by companions, and it contains many hints which he will find it pleasant to follow up. There is much about birds'-nesting, an occupation which one does not like to see encouraged, and more about the training of pets, feathered and otherwise.— Another clever book is "The Three Apprentices of Moon Street" (Crowell), translated from the French of Georges Montorguiel. The cuts, by Louis Le Rèverend and Paul Steck, are capital, and the tale is sprightly, happy-go-lucky, gaily written. One of the boys falls in with a travelling show, and acts the part of a wild untutored savage in it. It is amusing and of very light weight.— Mr. J. T. Trowbridge always winds up his books with wholesome morals, and in "The Lottery Ticket" (Lee & Shepard) he relates the story of a boy who goes to the city to earn his fortune, falls into bad company, and becomes involved, unwittingly, in a dishonest transaction. His troubles, severe as they are, are finally overcome, but the warning is emphatic. — Mr. Maurice Thompson does not overburden his romance with ethics, but "The Ocala Boy" (Lothrop) is wholesome enough, nevertheless. Two Northern boys who are spending the winter in Florida are the centre of interest, and the author contrives to give the narrative a certain charm of mystery. It is simple, though, and well-written.—A new edition of "Half a Dozen Boys," by Anna Chapin Ray, is published by Messrs. Crowell & Co. It is a pleasant story of harmless mischief, and the boys are very much alive, which accounts for the republication after five years.—A little book called "The Nimble Dollar, with Other Stories" (Houghton) is the work of an artist. The little tale called "The Reward of Heroes" would alone prove the author, Mr. Charles Miner Thompson, worthy of that title. There is a good deal of realism in the stories, which does not mean that they have no touches of romance. They are lively tales, which will do much more good than the sentimentalities that are too often offered. — "The Impostor," by Mr. Charles Remington Talbot (Lothrop), is a college story, in which athletics form the most conspicuous feature.

Literary Notes.

An important art work, "Annals of Westminster Abbey," with nearly two hundred illustrations, will be issued at once by Messrs. D. Appleton & Co.

Messrs. Houghton, Mifflin & Co. publish an exquisite little volume of Mr. T. B. Aldrich's "Later Lyrics," selected from his books of the last few years.

The first prize in the Hull House competition for "people's songs" has been awarded to Miss Mary A. Lathbury, and the second to Mr. M. S. Paden.

John Ormsby, the translator of "Don Quixote," a trustworthy scholar and an enthusiastic student of Spanish literature, died October 30, at the age of sixty-six.

The first volume of "The Reader's Shakespeare," an abridged edition edited by Mr. D. C. Bell of London, is about ready for issue by Messrs. Funk & Wagnalls.

The new "Johnson's Universal Cyclopædia," the successor to the old "Appleton," published by the same firm, and edited by President C. K. Adams, is just completed by the issue of the eighth volume.

Mr. Percival Lowell's "Atlantic" papers on the planet Mars, based upon his interesting observations at Flagstaff, Arizona, will be published in an illustrated volume by Messrs. Houghton, Mifflin & Co., this month.

The excellent edition of Dumas' Romances in English, published by Messrs. Little, Brown, & Co., will be continued by six new volumes, to appear immediately, — some of the contents being now translated for the first time.

Mr. Theodore Roosevelt's "New York" (Longmans), in the series of "Historic Towns," published some years ago, is now reissued, and is made to include a postscript on the events of the past five years, of which the author is so well qualified to write.

Messrs. G. P. Putnam's Sons are to be the American publishers of the new edition of Haydn's "Dictionary of Dates," edited by Mr. Benjamin Vincent. The work will contain 1,250 pages, 1,200 articles, and 140,000 "separate entries of dates and facts."

Octavius Brooks Frothingham died in Boston on the twenty-seventh of November, at the age of seventy-three. For nearly half a century he has occupied a prominent position in the Unitarian church, and was well known as a writer upon religious and literary subjects.

Really good editions of "Robinson Crusoe" and "Uncle Tom's Cabin" for fifty cents each seem an almost incredible achievement in bookmaking, yet this is what is promised by Messrs. Houghton, Mifflin & Co. in the December issues of the excellent "Riverside Literature Series."

Mr. George Saintsbury's new volume of essays on "Nineteenth Century Literature" will be published immediately by Messrs. Macmillan & Co. Mr. Saintsbury has just been nominated as Professor Masson's successor in the chair of English Literature at the University of Edinburgh.

The plates of General Grant's "Memoirs" have come into possession of the Century Co., and the work is reissued in a handsome two-volume edition, with new portraits, maps, notes, and index. The edition is nearly uniform with the Century "Life of Lincoln," and is well worthy to stand beside it.

A new edition of the "Lyra Elegantiarum" of Mr. Frederick Locker-Lampson, which had been carefully revised by him before his death, is soon to appear from the press of Messrs. Ward, Lock & Bowden. The same firm has just issued the twelfth volume of their neat edition of the novels of Henry Kingsley, completing that very desirable series.

A new work on "Plant Breeding," by Professor Bailey, which will undertake to discuss the underlying reasons, philosophy, and practice of the production of the new varieties of the gardener and the farmer, will soon be issued by Messrs. Macmillan & Co. It is expected that the book will be a contribution to the knowledge of organic evolution, as well as to the betterment of garden-craft.

"Othello" is the latest addition to the "Temple" Shakespeare. If imitation be the sincerest form of flattery, Messrs. Macmillan & Co. must think well of the form of this work, for they have taken it as a model in their twenty-three-volume reissue of Tennyson, now in course of publication, and in "The Modern Reader's Bible," of which "The Proverbs," edited by Mr. R. G. Moulton, is the first volume to appear.

The new "Cyclopædia of Architecture in Italy, Greece, and the Levant," to be issued by Messrs. Charles Scribner's Sons in a style uniform with their "Cyclopædia of Painters and Painting" and "Cyclopædia of Music and Musicians," will appeal to the lover of beautiful books not less than to the special student of art. The volume will be a quarto, with twelve full-page plates and over 250 text illustrations.

Baron John Byrne Leicester Warren de Tabley, who died on the 24th of November, had reached the age of sixty years. It is only of late that he has become generally known among the English poets, but the two volumes of his verse recently published have given him a wide reputation. Among the English poets who have survived Tennyson, he must be reckoned as one of the ten or twelve who have stood next to Mr. Swinburne and Mr. Morris.

An afternoon of authors' readings was given at one of the Chicago theatres on the 26th of November, for the purpose of doing honor to the memory of Eugene Field, and of raising a sum of money for the support of the poet's family. Among those who participated were Mr. Henry B. Fuller, Mr. John V. Cheney, Miss Harriet Monroe, Mrs. Lindon Bates, and Mrs. M. H. Catherwood. A considerable sum was realized from the sale of tickets.

The death of the Rev. Samuel F. Smith, on the sixteenth of November, removed from our living writers one whose name, as the author of "America," was a household word. He was born in 1808, educated at Harvard, and became successively a clergyman, a professor, and an editor. He was remarkable as a linguist, while as a writer he was prolific, both in prose and verse. His collected poems have recently been published, and will be reviewed in an early issue of The Dial.

Alexandre Dumas, the son of Alexander the Great, died on the twenty-seventh of November. He was almost the sole survivor of the great mid-century period of French letters, and his "Dame aux Camellias," at least, had gone many times round the world in its threefold form of novel, play, and opera. He was one of the pioneer problem-dramatists, and his rank is somewhere near that of Augier and M. Sardou. Many of his plays are familiar to English and American theatre-goers.

Barthélemy Saint-Hilaire died on the 24th of November, at the advanced age of ninety. He was Minister

of Finance under Charles X., and assistant to Cousin in the Ministry of Public Instruction. Later, he occupied the Chair of Latin and Greek in the Ecole Polytechnique. He declined to sanction the *coup d'état*, and kept out of politics until his election to the Legislature just before the war of 1870. During the Presidency of Thiers, he acted as his secretary, and retired with him chief in 1873. In 1880, he was Minister of Foreign Affairs in the Freycinet Cabinet. His work as a scholar has given him a high place in the history of French thought, and he is best known by his translation of Aristotle, more than anything else the work of his lifetime. He wrote treatises on many Oriental subjects, and only two years ago began a three-volume biography of Cousin. He was one of the few men living in recent years who had seen and known the first Napoleon.

List of New Books.

[*The following list, containing 164 titles, includes books received by* The Dial *since its last issue.*]

ILLUSTRATED GIFT-BOOKS.

The Comedies of Shakespeare. With 131 full-page photogravure reproductions of drawings by Edwin A. Abbey. In 4 vols., large 8vo, gilt tops, uncut. Harper & Bros. Boxed, $30. *net.*

Victorian Songs: Lyrics of the Affections and Nature. Collected, and illus. in photogravure, by Edmund H. Garrett; with Introduction by Edmund Gosse. 8vo, gilt top, pp. 228. Little, Brown & Co. $6.

Tales of a Traveller. By Washington Irving. "Buckthorne" edition; in 2 vols., illus. in photogravure, 8vo, gilt tops, uncut. G. P. Putnam's Sons. Boxed, $6.

Choice Works of George Sand. In 4 vols., comprising: François the Waif, The Devil's Pool, Fadette, and The Master Mosaic Workers. 16mo, gilt tops, uncut. Little, Brown & Co. $6.

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Keats' Poetical Works. Edited, with Notes and Appendices, by H. Buxton Forman. In 2 vols., with photogravure portraits and other illustrations, 12mo, gilt tops. T. Y. Crowell & Co. $3.

Natural History of Selborne, and Observations on Nature. By Gilbert White; with Introduction by John Burroughs. In 2 vols., illus., 12mo, gilt tops, uncut. D. Appleton & Co. $4.

Some Ancient English Homes and their Associations, Personal, Archæological, and Historic. By Elizabeth Hodges. Illus., 8vo, gilt top, uncut, pp. 280. G. P. Putnam's Sons. $4.

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A Midsummer Night's Dream. By William Shakespeare; edited, with Introduction, by Israel Gollancz. Illus. by Robert Anning Bell; 8vo, pp. 128. Macmillan & Co. $2.

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